

Aug 26

The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW, MERCANTILE JOURNAL,
AND

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. IX. No. 437.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1858.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED.....SIXPENCE.
Stampd.....Sevenpence.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.

Subscribed Capital.....£1,250,000
Paid-up Capital.....200,000
Reserved Fund.....105,000

Head Office, 21, Lombard-street.

DIRECTORS.

Philip Patton Blyth, Esq.
John Wm. Burmester, Esq.
Thomas Tyringham Bernard,
Esq., M.P.
William Cory, Esq.
Jos. Christopher Ewart, Esq.,
M.P.
James Andrew Durham, Esq.

William Champion Jones,
Esq.
James Laming, Esq.
John Henry Lance, Esq.
William Lee, Esq.
William Nicol, Esq.
Richard Springett, Esq.

GENERAL-MANAGER.—William McKewan, Esq.

At the HALF-YEARLY MEETING of Proprietors, held on Thursday, the 5th of August, 1858, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, the following Report for the half-year ending the 30th June, 1858, was read by the Secretary.

WILLIAM NICOL, Esq., in the Chair.

REPORT.

Your Directors have the satisfaction of laying before the Proprietors the usual accounts and balance sheet for the six months ending 30th of June last.

These accounts, which have been submitted to the Auditors, show a gross profit, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, of 101,064*l.* 14*s.*; and, after payment of current expenses at the head office and at all the branches, interest to customers, and rebate of interest on current bills, there remains a net profit of 20,030*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* for the half-year.

Your directors have therefore declared the usual dividend of 5*l.* per cent. for the six months, free of income-tax, and have carried forward to profit and loss new account the sum of 4384*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*

The dividend will be payable at the head office, or at any of the branches, on and after Monday, the 16th inst.

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, JUNE 30, 1858.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Capital paid up.....	500,000	0	0
To reserve fund.....	105,000	0	0
To customers' balances, &c.....	4,178,253	9	7
To profit and loss balance brought from last account.....	27,394	11	4
To gross profit for the half year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts.....	94,270	2	8
	101,064	14	0
	£4,884,948	3	7

Cr.	£	s.	d.
By cash on hand at head office and branches.....	£406,030	15	7
By cash placed at call and at short notice.....	1,056,046	1	2
	1,522,076	6	18

Investments, viz. :—

By Government and guaranteed stocks.....	£276,803	10	1
Other stocks and securities.....	228,830	11	5
	505,640	1	6

By discounted bills, notes, and temporary advances to customers in town and country.....

£2,451,502	0	8
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By advances to customers on special securities.....

£78,576	14	4
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By freehold premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, freehold and leasehold property at the branches, with fixtures and fittings.....

50,866	3	10
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By interest paid to customers.....

24,209	11	5
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By salaries and all other expenses at head office and branches, including income-tax.....

43,156	15	1
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4,884,948	3	7
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Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To interest paid to customers.....	24,209	11	5
To expenses, as above.....	43,156	15	1
To rebate on bills not due, carried to profit and loss new account.....	5,148	1	0
To dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year	25,000	0	0
To balance carried forward to profit and loss new account.....	4,030	6	6
	101,064	14	0

Cr.

Balance brought forward from last account;	7,304	11	4
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By gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts.....

94,270	2	8
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101,064	14	0
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We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and compared the items it comprises with the several books and vouchers relating thereto, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) HENRY OVERTON, } Auditors.
JOHN WRIGHT, }

London and County Bank, July 30, 1858.
The foregoing Report having been read by the Secretary, the following Resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

1. That the report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the Shareholders.

4. That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company.

The ballot for the election of an auditor having been proceeded with, the following gentleman was unanimously elected:—

Frederick Harrison, Esq.

(Signed) WILLIAM NICOL, Chairman.

The Chairman having quitted the Chair, it was resolved, and carried unanimously—

That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be presented to William Nicol, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the chair.

(Signed) W. C. JONES.

(Signed) E. P. NICHOLS, Secretary.

BANK OF EGYPT.—The Directors grant

LETTERS OF CREDIT, payable on demand (free of charge) and negotiate approved BILLS OF EXCHANGE on Alexandria and Cairo.

Bankers: the Bank of England, and Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co.

EDWARD CHESHIRE, Secretary.

26, Old Broad-street.

BANK OF DEPOSIT, Established A.D. 1844.

3, Pall-mall East, London. Parties desirous of INVESTING MONEY are requested to examine the Plan of the BANK OF DEPOSIT, by which a high rate of interest may be obtained with ample security. The interest is payable in January and July.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Forms for opening Accounts sent free on application.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a

DIVIDEND on the Capital Stock of the Company, at the rate of Five per Cent. for the half-year ending 30th June, 1858, will be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the Chief Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's Branch Banks, on and after MONDAY, 16th inst.

By order of the Board,

W. MCKEWAN, General Manager.

21, Lombard-street, August 5, 1858.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS are granted upon the Banks at Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Gawler. Approved drafts on South Australia negotiated and sent for collection. Every description of Banking business is conducted direct with Victoria and New South Wales, and also with the other Australian Colonies, through the Company's Agents. Apply at 54, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

ST. GEORGE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

118, Pall-Mall, London, S.W.
Capital 100,000*l.*, in Shares of 5*l.* each.
Chairman.—Henry Pownall, Esq.
Deputy Chairman.—Henry Haines, Esq.

The Leading Features of this Office are—
Every description of Life Assurance on the most favourable terms.

The Assurance of Defective Titles, thereby restoring the property to its full value.

Endowments for Husbands, Wives, or Nominees.

Endowments for Children on attaining a certain age.

Annuities of every description granted on terms peculiarly favourable.

Notices of Assignments of Policies Registered.

Medical References paid by the Company.

Age of the Life Assured admitted on all Policies, on reasonable proof being given.

Stamp Duties on Life Policies paid by the Company.

Loans on Real or Personal Security, repayable by monthly or quarterly instalments, from one to five years.

For further particulars, Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses, apply to

F. H. GILBERT, Secretary.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE, INCORPORATED A.D. 1780. FOR LIFE, FIRE, AND MARINE ASSURANCES.

Head Office—No. 7, Royal Exchange, Cornhill.

John Alves Arbuthnot, Esq., Governor.

John Alex. Hankey, Esq., Sub-Governor.

Bonamy Dobree, Jun., Esq., Deputy-Governor.

DIRECTORS.

Nathaniel Alexander, Esq.
Richard Baggallay, Esq.
Henry Bonham Barr, Esq.
James Blyth, Esq.
Edward Budd, Esq.
Edward Burmester, Esq.
Charles Crawley, Esq.
John Entwistle, Esq.
Robert Gillespie, Jun., Esq.
Harry George Gordon, Esq.
Edwin Gower, Esq.
Samuel Gregson, Esq., M.P.

G. R. Griffiths, Esq.
David C. Guthrie, Esq.
Edward Harcourt, Esq.
Louis Huth, Esq.
William King, Esq.
Charles Lyall, Esq.
John Ord, Esq.
Capt. R. W. Pelly, R.N.
David Powell, Esq.
P. F. Robertson, Esq., M.P.
Alex. Trotter, Esq.
Lestock Peach Wilson, Esq.

Actuary—Peter Hardy, Esq., F.R.S.

West End Office—No. 7, Pall Mall.

COMMITTEE.

Two Members of the Court in rotation, and
Henry Kingscote, Esq., and John Tidd Pratt, Esq.,
Superintendent—Philip Scoones, Esq.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

This Corporation has granted Assurances on Lives for a period exceeding One Hundred and Thirty Years, having issued its first Policy on the 7th June, 1731.

Two-thirds, or 66 per cent. of the entire profits are given to the Assured.

Policies may be opened under any of the following plans, viz. :—

At a low rate of premium, without participation in profits, or at a somewhat higher rate, entitling the Assured, either, after the first five years, to an annual abatement of premium for the remainder of life, or after payment of the first premium, to a participation in the ensuing Quinquennial Bonus.

The abatement for the year 1858, on the Annual Premiums of persons who have been assured under Series "1831" for five years or longer, is upwards of 34 per cent.

The high character which this ancient Corporation has maintained during nearly a Century and a Half, secures to the public a full and faithful declaration of profits.

The Corporation bears the whole EXPENSES OF MANAGEMENT, thus giving to the Assured, conjoined with the protection afforded by its Corporate Fund, advantages equal to those of any system of Mutual Assurance.

Premiums may be paid Yearly, Half-yearly, or Quarterly.

All Policies are issued free from stamp duty, or from charge of any description whatever, beyond the Premium.

The attention of the Public is especially called to the great advantages offered to Life Assurers by the Legislature in its recent Enactments, by which it will be found that to a defined extent Life Premiums are not subject to Income Tax.

The fees of Medical References are paid by the Corporation.

Annuities are granted by the Corporation, payable Half-Yearly.

Every facility will be given for the transfer or exchange of Policies, or any other suitable arrangement will be made for the convenience of the Assured.

Prospectuses and all other information may be obtained by either a written or personal application to the Actuary, or to the Superintendent of the West End Office.

JOHN LAURENCE, Secretary.

CITY OF LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,

18, NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £250,000.

THE CITY OF LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

OFFERS all the advantages of the Mutual system and facilities in every department.

Ordinary Assurances with or without participation in the Profits of the office.

Immediate, Deferred, or Reversionary Annuities.

Annuities or Endowments.

Loans granted on approved securities.

Claims are paid with promptitude.

Every information will be forwarded, post free, on application to the Secretary at the Head Office, or to any of the Agents of the Society.

EDWARD F. LEEKS, Secretary.

18, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

BANK OF LONDON.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

CHAIRMAN.—Sir John Villiers Shelley, Bart., M.P.
VICE-CHAIRMAN.—John Griffith Frith, Esq. (Frith, Sands, and Co.)
John Edmund Anderson, Esq.
Colonel William Elsey, Esq.
Thomas Gooch, Esq.
John Johnson, Esq.
Charles Joyce, Esq.

MANAGER.—Matthew Marshall, Jun., Esq.
ASSISTANT MANAGER.—W. C. Boore, Esq.
SECRETARY.—C. J. H. Allen, Esq.

At the Third Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Tuesday, the 3rd of August, 1858.

The following Reports were read by the Secretary:—
The Directors, in submitting the accounts to the 30th of June, 1858, have the satisfaction of reporting that the Bank has materially extended its business connection since the last Meeting of the Proprietors, and that, although commerce has been inactive, yet the operations of the Bank have been sound and profitable.

"It will be seen that the sum of 24,631 18s. 2d. stands to credit of profit and Loss Account for the past half-year after payment of Interest to Customers. Out of this sum have been defrayed current expenses at the two Establishments, Directors' Remuneration, and Income Tax, which, together with bad and doubtful debts, amounts to 9,974 2s. 11d. The Directors have placed to credit of profit and Loss New Account, 2,292 13s. 1d. as rebate of Interest on Bills not matured. They now declare a Dividend for the half-year, upon the paid-up capital of the Bank, at the rate of 5s. per cent. per annum (free of Income Tax). From the balance remaining at disposal after these appropriations, the Directors have applied 1000l. in reduction of preliminary expenses, and 200l. towards the cost of the Lease of Premises at the Charing-cross Branch. They have also added the sum of 3,320 8s. 2d. to the Reserve or Guarantee Fund, which now amounts to 8000l., and the Balance, viz., 344 14s., they carry forward to Profit and Loss New Account.

BANK OF LONDON.

Liabilities and Assets. June 30th, 1858.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Capital paid up.....	300,000	0	0
" Reserve Fund	4,687	18	8
" Half-year's Interest, at 4½ per cent.....	91	15	2
" Amount due by the Bank on Current, Deposits, and other Accounts	4,679	11	10
" Amount carried to Credit of "Profit and Loss" Account.....	1,950,352	0	8
" Less amount paid to customers for interest on their balances	33,395	16	10
	8,763	18	1
	24,631	18	2
	£1,388,663	10	8

By Three Agents, viz.:—
In Government Securities.....£167,367 7 7
" Other Securities.....77,954 7 6

By Freehold Premises in Threadneedle-street.....	75,000	0	0
" Bills Discounted, Loans, &c.	976,735	11	10
" Cash in hand	142,324	9	8
" Preliminary Expenses	6,617	5	5
" Lease, and Buildings at Charing-cross Branch, Furniture, &c.	2,614	8	9
	£1,388,663	10	8

Profit and Loss Account.
For the Half Year ending 30th June, 1858.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Half a Year's Current Expenses at Head Office and Charing-cross Branch, Bad and Doubtful Debts, Income Tax, Directors' Remuneration, &c.	9,974	2	11
" Rebate of Interest on Bills Discounted, not yet due, credited to Profit and Loss New Account.....	2,292	13	1
" Amount written off— Preliminary Expenses Account.....£1000 Ditto ditto Charing-cross Lease and Buildings, &c.	200		
	1,290	0	0
" Dividend at the rate of 5½ per cent. per annum, for the half year ending June 30th, 1858	7,500	0	0
" Amount carried to Credit of Reserve Fund	3,320	8	2
" Balance carried to Profit and Loss New Account	344	14	0
	£24,631	18	2

By Balance of Profit brought from last half year	802	17	2
" Ditto for current half year	23,829	1	0
	£24,631	18	2

(Signed) Robert Porter, George Thomson, Henry Astle, Auditors.

Examined and approved, July 23rd, 1858.

To the Proprietors of the Bank of London.

In the performance of our duties as your auditors, we have made our usual investigation into the affairs of the Bank, and having examined the various accounts and securities, we report that we find them correct.

We have much pleasure in adding that during the past year the Bank has made material progress in the most important branches of its business, particularly in the increase of Current Accounts; the amount on deposit Account has somewhat diminished, owing to the low rate of interest which has prevailed for some months past.

We may add that every aid has been afforded us in our investigation by the Officers of the Bank.

(Signed) Robert Porter, George Thomson, Henry Astle, Auditors.

London, July 23rd, 1858.

Resolved unanimously, "That the Report now read be received and printed, and a copy sent to each Proprietor."

The chairman announced the dividend would be payable on Monday the 9th inst.

Resolved unanimously, "That John Edmund Anderson, Esq., be re-elected a Director of this Bank."

"That Thomas Luce, Esq., M.P., be re-elected a Director of this Bank."

"That Alfred Wilson, Esq., be re-elected a Director of this Bank."

"That Robert Porter, Esq., be re-elected a Director of this Bank."

"That Henry Astle, Esq., George Thomson, Esq., and Richard Hardley, Esq., be elected Auditors of this Bank for the ensuing year."

"That this meeting hereby authorises the Directors to call future ordinary general meetings, at any time between the 1st day of July and the 8th day of August, as they may from time to time appoint."

"That the best thanks of this meeting are hereby tendered to the Chairman and Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Bank during the past half-year."

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Manager and Officers of the Bank."

"That the best thanks of the Shareholders are due, and are hereby given, to Benjamin Scott, Esq., the late Secretary, for the energy he displayed while in the service of this Bank, and that they desire to convey to him their most sincere congratulations on his appointment as Chamberlain of the City of London."

Extracted from the Minutes,
C. J. H. ALLEN, Secretary.

Threadneedle-street, August 3rd, 1858.

BANK OF LONDON.—Current Accounts are

received, and if the balance shall not at any time during the half-year have been below 500l., interest at the rate of two per cent. per annum will be allowed on the minimum monthly balances. If not below 200l., interest at the rate of one per cent. per annum will be allowed on the minimum monthly balances.

Money is received from the public as well as from customers on deposit, at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at the market rate of the day. The present rate is 2½ per cent. per annum.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit issued upon every place of importance in the world.

No gratuities to clerks or officers of the Bank.

By order,
M. MARSHALL, Jun., Manager.

Threadneedle-street, August, 1858.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE.

Incorporated A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First and confirmed by Special Acts of Parliament.

Chief Office, Royal Exchange, London; Branch, 29, Pall-mall.

FIRE, LIFE, and MARINE ASSURANCES may be effected with this Corporation on advantageous terms.

Life Assurances are granted with, or without, participation in Profits; in the latter case at reduced rates of Premium.

Any sum not exceeding 15,000l. may be assured on the same Life.

The Reversionary Bonus on British Policies has averaged 48 per cent. upon the Premiums paid, or very nearly 2 per cent. per annum upon the sum assured.

The future divisions of Profit will take place every Five Years.

The Expenses of Management, being divided between the different branches, are spread over a larger amount of business than that transacted by any other office. The charge upon each Policy is thereby so much reduced as to account for the magnitude of the Bonus which has been declared, and to afford a probability that a similar rate will be maintained at future divisions.

This Corporation affords to the Assured a liberal participation in Profits, with exemption under Royal Charter from the liabilities of partnership;—a rate of Bonus equal to the average returns of Mutual Societies, with the guarantee, not afforded by them, of a large invested Capital-Stock;—the advantages of modern practice, with the security of an Office whose resources have been tested by the experience of nearly a Century and a Half.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
1, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

Instituted 1820.

DIRECTORS.

MARTIN TUCKER SMITH, Esq., M.P., Chairman.

GEORGE WILLIAM COTTAM, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

Thomas George Barclay, Esq. Samuel Hibbert, Esq.

James C. Bell, Esq. Daniel Mildred, Esq.

James Brand, Esq. Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq.

Charles Cave, Esq. Frederick Pattison, Esq.

George Henry Cutler, Esq. William B. Robinson, Esq.

Henry Davidson, Esq. Newman Smith, Esq.

GEORGE FIELD, Esq.

SECURITY.—The existing liabilities of the Company do not exceed 3,000,000l. The Investments are nearly 1,000,000l. in addition to upwards of 600,000l. for which the shareholders are responsible, and the income is about 120,000l. per annum.

PROFITS.—FOUR-FIFTHS, or Eighty per cent. of the Profits, are assigned to Policies every fifth year. The next appropriation will be made in 1861, and persons who now effect insurances will participate ratably.

BONUS.—The additions to Policies have been from 17 10s. to 63l. 16s. per cent. on the original sums insured.

CLAIMS.—Upwards of 1,250,000l. has been paid to claimants under policies.

Proposals for insurances may be made at the chief office, as above; at the Branch office, 16, Pall Mall, London; or to any of the agents throughout the kingdom.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

MONEY TO LEND.—THE LONDON AND

CONTINENTAL ASSURANCE SOCIETY lends

money, repayable by instalments, upon personal or other security. 77, Gracechurch-street, E.C.

[ESTABLISHED 1841.]

MEDICAL INVALID AND GENERAL

LIFE OFFICE, 25, PALL MALL, London.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

At the SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING, held on 24th November, 1857, it was shown that on the 30th June last:—

The Number of Policies in force was . . . 4235

The amount Insured was . . . 2,917,509 13s. 10d.

The Annual Income was . . . 125,113 3s. 8d.

The new policies issued during the last 5 years are as follows, viz.:—

1853	1854	1855	1856	1857
922	1119	1129	1137	1207
402,176	534,188	538,084	566,709	570,282
yielding	25,758	25,600	24,951	23,015

Averaging 1100 policies in each year for more than half a million sterling.

Two Bounties have been declared (in 1848 and 1853), adding nearly Two per cent. per annum on the average to sums assured.

The Society, since its establishment, has paid claims on 781 Policies, assuring 312,884l.

Assurances are effected at home or abroad on healthy lives at as moderate rates as the most recent data will allow.

Indian Assurances at very moderate rates, and great facilities given to assurers.

Invalid lives assured on scientifically constructed tables. Policies issued free of Stamp duty, and every charge but the Premium.

DAYS OF GRACE.—In the event of death during the days of grace the risk binding on the Society if premium paid before the days of grace expire.

Active working Agents wanted for vacant places. Prospectuses, Forms of Proposals, and every other information, may be obtained of the Secretary at the Chief Office, or on application to any of the Society's Agents in the Country.

G. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.

ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

£1000 IN CASE OF DEATH, OR

A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK

IN THE EVENT OF INJURY,

May be secured by an Annual Payment of £3 for a Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

A special Act provides that persons receiving compensation from this Company are not barred thereby from recovering full damages from the party causing the injury; an advantage no other Company can offer.

It is found that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly. This Company has already paid as compensation for Accidents 27,988l.

Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.

NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.

Railway Passengers' Assurance Company,

Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

CAPE TOWN RAILWAY AND DOCK COMPANY.

The Board have the satisfaction of stating that the contract for the construction of the Railway between Cape Town and Wellington has been awarded to this company on the basis of a guarantee by the Colonial Government of a minimum rate of interest of 6l. per cent. for fifty years from the opening of the line, with power to pay interest at the same rate during its construction on all calls or payments in advance of calls.

It is necessary, therefore, that scrip-holders should bring in their scrip without delay, to be exchanged for share certificates. The Board have determined to offer the 2000 shares not hitherto allotted to the present holders of scrip in the proportion of ONE ADDITIONAL SHARE for every FIVE now held by them, provided application be made of the same on or before the 1st September next.

Forms of application may be obtained at the Office.

By order.

261, Gresham House, Old Broad-street,

August 6th, 1858.

PARTNERSHIP.—An opportunity offers to a

gentleman of about 30 years of age, of steady business habits, and with a capital of about 5000l. (only half of which is required at first), to take a half share in a London business that has been conducted with uninterrupted success for the last 40 years, the returns of which have increased upwards of 1000l. per annum for several years past and are capable of a still greater increase. No previous knowledge of the business is necessary, but the incoming partner must be competent to take entire charge of the Financial Department, hitherto conducted by the senior partner, retired on account of age.—Address, T. J. Carr, of Messrs. Robson and Baughan, Solicitors, Clifford's-lane, Chancery-lane, London.

ROYAL ASYLUM OF ST. ANN'S SOCIETY,

Brixton Hill, Surrey, and Aldersgate.

By voluntary contributions. Affording home, clothing, maintenance, and education to children of parents once in prosperity—orphans or not—of any nation.

Under the patronage of her Majesty, the Prince Consort, and the Royal Family.

The HALF-YEARLY Election will take place at the London Tavern, on Friday, 13th August next. Subscriptions thankfully received by the Committee: Messrs. SPOONER and Co., 27, Gracechurch-street; and by

EDWARD F. LEEKS, Secretary.

Office—2, Walbrook, Mansion House, E.C.

CAUTION TO Householders, Bankers, Mer-

chants, and Public Offices. The Patent NATIONAL and DEFENSE LOCKS can be had only of F. FICK- RIDGE, 52, Strand, near Charing-cross. These Locks are important for their security against burglars and thieves, as evidenced in the fraudulent attempt to pick it at the Crystal Palace, in August, 1854, by John Goater, foreman to Messrs. Chubb, for the REWARD of 200 Guineas. See Pamphlet and Description, to be had gratis. Fire and Thief proof Iron Safes, Plate and Jewel Chests, Deed, Cash, and Despatch Boxes, Embossing Dies, &c. Warranted Street-Door Latches, 17s. 6d. each.

Review of the Week.

IN spite of the best-formed calculations of the best-informed politicians, the Derby Government has held its way in safety over the stormy ocean of a Parliamentary session; and not only does it get safely into port, but the ministerial vessel is in better trim than when it first set out upon its perilous voyage. Truly, it may be said that the vessel which has accomplished this feat is scarcely the same that originally started upon the adventure—such great changes have been wrought in every part of it, hull and rigging. Starting as a Conservative, heavy-sailing galleon, it comes home a fast-moving steam clipper. The oldest hands on board hardly recognise their ship, painted as she now is of a colour so very different from that which formerly distinguished her. But, after all, there is nothing wonderful in what has happened. Lord Derby and his party have but obeyed the tendency of the time to break down the old barriers that divided Conservatives from Liberals. They have moved one step upon the road towards a broad-based Government, such as we long ago pointed out as the great national want. We have no right to expect that they will advance far along the "right path." As far as the present is concerned, however, the fact is that, with the odds apparently dead against him, Lord Derby—profiting by the blunders and short-comings of his predecessors in office—has steered through every danger of the session with a success that is not to be measured by the horrible badness of the address which brought the business of the session to a close on Monday afternoon.

Throughout the past session the ministry of Lord Derby have had to thank the leaders of the Independent Liberal party for the fair play which they determined to see between the supporters of the late Government and those who at present hold office. The impartial and independent position taken by Lord John Russell defended them securely from the attacks of any purely party combination; they have had also the benefit of much out-of-door sympathy for the difficult nature of the work they were called upon to execute in forming a Government for India. They have also won a legitimate and unaided success by the active and straightforward dealing of Lord Malmesbury in the Cagliari affair. Much good fortune has attended their course: at the very moment when the labours of the session were being wound up, news arrived from India that points to the possibility, at least, of a not distant termination of the rebellion. Still, the foundation upon which the Ministerial structure rests is one that may crumble from beneath it at almost any moment. Government cannot command a majority upon any question that it may attempt to legislate upon; it has only the general support of a majority which, on many questions, is bound to outvote it. It has its Reform Bill to bring forward and to tremble for; but even should it, by conciliating all parties, as it did in the construction and conduct of its India Bill, escape the perils of that ordeal, almost any incident in the chapter of accidents may be the cause of its overthrow.

Meanwhile, the books of the House of Commons are loaded with notices of motions to be made on convenient occasions next session, many of them on subjects long standing for settlement. For example, there are three notices of motion on the subject of church rates, one by Sir Arthur Elton, moving the House to pass resolutions prohibiting the levying of church rates, except for payment of existing charges on the rates, and confiding the maintenance of the fabric of the church to the zeal and liberality of the clergy and laity. This, with the other provisions of Sir Arthur's scheme, will reopen the subject, closed for the time by the Lords' rejection of

Sir John Trelawny's bill, and after the Archbishop of Canterbury's expression of readiness to accept any settlement of the question that is not wholly a surrender of the interest of the Church, we may hope that the dispute will be finally put an end to.

Several subjects of importance were introduced at the final sittings of the House of Lords, all looking to future legislation. With reference to the better conduct of one branch of the Houses own business, that relating to private bills, Lord Redesdale has proposed to add several standing orders to those already existing, the operation of the new ones being to save the time of the House and the pockets of the suitors, at the same time enabling the House to form a more correct judgment upon the cases submitted to it than it can do at present. A more directly important object was brought forward by the Lord Chancellor for the express purpose of being ventilated during the recess, this is the state of the Bankruptcy Law. The main object of the reform proposed by the Lord Chancellor is to place the estate of a bankrupt absolutely in the hands of the creditors, to be made the best of for their own interest, by the process of liquidation, under the superintendence of trustees. By the provisions of the proposed bill, either the debtor or the creditor would be competent to petition the Bankruptcy Court with a view to liquidation, and the whole conduct of the estate might be left to the creditors, aided by the debtor, the Court of Bankruptcy being still available for the winding up of the estate, in the event of the trustees desiring to invoke its aid. Lord Chelmsford courts criticism, during the recess, upon the scheme which he has roughly drawn up, and the subject is greatly interesting all classes of the commercial community. Upon one point—namely, the punishment of fraudulent bankrupts—feeling is already warmly aroused. The Lord Chancellor will not consent to give to the Court of Bankruptcy the power of imprisoning a fraudulent bankrupt; he insists that all such cases shall be decided by a jury, and his determination is very remarkable, seeing that the Insolvent Commissioner already has the power of inflicting imprisonment to the extent of three years. Such an oversight in the Lord Chancellor—the highest law officer in the realm—is likely to provoke more criticism than he intended to invite.

Another subject, with an interest of a very different kind belonging to it, was opened up by Lord Redesdale, and will command some attention during the holidays. His Lordship has pointed out the fact that at the present time there are upwards of one hundred Baronies in abeyance. The House of Lords is much occupied with the investigation of the claims of persons who petition the Crown to call many of these Baronies out of abeyance in their favour. Lord Redesdale moved for a return of all Baronies in abeyance, and also an address to the Crown praying her Majesty to determine whether, for the future, cases in which the Barony has been in abeyance for a certain number of years shall be brought before the House, and to act in relation to such Peerages as shall seem expedient to her. One of the great objections to calling a Barony out of abeyance is that the successful claimant—if the title has been long in abeyance—may take precedence of Peers inheriting their titles through uninterrupted descent of many generations, as in the instance cited of Lord Botetourt, who, after his title was called out of an abeyance of 358 years, sat as third lord only of that name, but took precedence before the seventeenth Lord Audley and the fifteenth Lord Stourton. Lord Campbell suggests that a Peerage should be unclaimable after lying in abeyance for one hundred years.

Her Majesty commenced the week by the performance of a duty of a kind which is known to be particularly agreeable to her. On Monday evening she distributed twenty-one Victoria Crosses as rewards for special acts of valour performed in the Crimea and in India. The presentation took place

on Southsea Common, and the scene is described as being extraordinarily beautiful. The high ground on three sides of the common was covered with spectators, while, on the fourth side, Lord Lyons's fleet lay in a double line, and over all the sun shone brightly. The whole fleet manned yards and saluted on the arrival of the Queen from Osborne, and again on her departure, producing an effect indescribably fine.

Of the festive events at Cherbourg no detailed accounts have been received up to the time of going to press. We know, however, that her Majesty breakfasted with the Emperor and Empress on Thursday, at noon, and that the royal party afterwards made the tour of the city, being everywhere received with enthusiasm. Her Majesty afterwards dined with the Emperor and Empress on board the Bretagne. Some notion of the numbers congregated at Cherbourg may be formed from the fact, that 40,000 passports are said to have been granted in Paris alone. The weather throughout the week has been real "Queen's weather."

The news from Belgium is of a disappointing as well as of a painful kind. The desire of the Government to create for its own security a place of safety in case of foreign invasion, is extremely reasonable. Open on all sides to hostile molestation by powerful neighbouring states, the advent of a hostile army upon its soil would drive the Executive into exile, from the fact of its having no asylum to which it could retreat. The refusal, then, of the Chambers to fortify Antwerp as a remedy for this serious national defect is to be lamented, the more, because monetary considerations have been dominant with the party opposing the scheme. The country has also, this week, suffered an irreparable loss in the destruction by fire of its famous old Exchange, with whose history our commerce is very closely associated.

From India the news is of a very hopeful kind. The successes of Sir Hugh Rose and Brigadier Hope have had great moral effect upon the enemy. At last there are real signs of a tendency on the part of the rebels to give up the struggle. Great numbers have already given up their arms and submitted themselves to be dealt with by British justice. One incident of the news is startling: it is that, after following up the enemy with such splendid daring and success, Sir Hugh Rose has determined to retire from the command of the Central India force. The need of repose is assigned as the cause of his taking this step; but it is not impossible other and better reasons can and will be given. Meanwhile the value of Sir Hugh Rose's services are not unrecognised even in official quarters; rewards are to be given him, and as a first instalment he has been appointed to the command of the 45th Regiment.

To turn from the labours of war to those of peace, the present week will be famous in the history of human progress, for to it belongs the accomplishment of perhaps the noblest work of any age. The telegraphic wire has been safely conducted from the shores of the American continent to those of Great Britain. Time and space are thus put out of account in our communications with our friends and relations across the Atlantic: it is not being over sanguine to hope and believe that the fruits of our closer intimacy will ripen with a rapidity worthy of the sublime means of intercourse now at our mutual command. Not only are we nearer to each other mentally and morally, but we desire to be nearer to each other in the flesh, and we are ceaselessly endeavouring to shorten the journey that lies between us even by an hour or two. The latest attempt is by means of a line of steamers from the port of Galway, from whence New York can be reached in eight days. To fit the harbour of Galway for this grand undertaking, a deputation has waited upon Lord Derby to ask him for the assistance of Government to make a breakwater. The sum of money asked is, however, a serious consideration, and at present there is not much likelihood that it will be forthcoming. Meanwhile, we have no room for discontent with our present means of transit to America, for they are magnificent. With regard to the length of the voyage to India, there appears to be no chance of any shorter path being discovered at present. Mr. Robert Stephenson's letter in the *Times* of Tuesday goes far to settle the question of the Suez Canal. Few English speculators will now be found willing to risk their money in the enterprise, and without English money no such work is ever likely to be undertaken.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, August 2nd.

MONDAY was the last day of the present session of Parliament—a session memorable on many accounts. There was but a small attendance of members in the House of Commons; but, while they waited to be summoned to the Upper House to hear the Prorogation Speech, a few notices of motion were given, and questions put.

INDIA—EDUCATION.

Mr. WARREN gave notice of his intention, early next session, to move a series of resolutions, expressive of the opinion of the House as to the principles upon which the Queen's Government in India should be hereafter conducted with reference to the promotion of education, and the adoption of measures with a view to the extension of Christianity.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

In answer to Mr. DUNCOMBE, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the National Gallery would shortly be open regularly every Saturday afternoon.

HURDLES IN THE PARKS.

Replying to Lord PALMERSTON, Lord JOHN MANNERS said that the hurdles had been entirely removed from Hyde-park, but, with regard to the Green-park, the grass had been injured by some noxious insects, and it would be necessary to keep the hurdles there some time longer.

OUR RELATIONS WITH NAPLES.

In answer to some remarks and questions by Mr. DUNCOMBE, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said he could not infer from the observations of the hon. member whether he considered that the renewal of diplomatic relations with Naples would be indicative of sympathy with despotism abroad, or otherwise. All he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) could say, was that her Majesty's Government thought, as all must think, that the suspension of diplomatic relations was most inconvenient and injurious, and that it could only be justified on strong grounds. With respect to Naples, perhaps a great deal that had occurred of late might not have occurred if her Majesty had been directly represented at that Court. But it was unnecessary to speculate on those circumstances. When diplomatic relations would be renewed, it was impossible for him to say.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.

Mr. WALFOLLE brought up a message from the Queen, stating that her Majesty had ordered a commission to issue in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Harbours of Refuge.

CHINA.

Mr. WHITE said it would be satisfactory to the House if the Chancellor of the Exchequer could give them any information respecting the state of our proceedings in China.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the accounts received by the Government justified him in believing that increased activity would bring the proceedings to a satisfactory conclusion.

The Usher of the Black Rod here summoned the hon. members to the HOUSE OF LORDS, to hear the prorogation of Parliament by commission. The following was

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

“My Lords and Gentlemen,

“We are commanded by her Majesty to express her satisfaction at being enabled to release you from the duties of a session which, though interrupted, has, by your unremitting assiduity, been productive of many important measures.

“Her Majesty is happy to believe that her relations with foreign Powers are such as to enable her Majesty to look with confidence to the preservation of general peace.

“Her Majesty trusts that the labours of the plenipotentiaries now sitting in conference at Paris may lead to a satisfactory solution of the various questions which have been referred to them.

“The efforts, the gallantry, and devotedness displayed in India by her Majesty's forces, and those of the East India Company, have been above all praise; and her Majesty hopes that those efforts have already been so far crowned with success, that the formidable revolt which has raged throughout a large portion of her Indian possessions may now, under the blessing of Almighty God, be speedily suppressed, and peace be restored to those important provinces.

“In this hope, her Majesty has given her willing assent to the act which you have passed, for transferring to her direct authority the government of her Indian dominions; and her Majesty hopes to be enabled so to discharge the high functions which she has assumed, as, by a just and impartial administration of the law, to secure its advantages alike to her subjects of every race and creed; and, by promoting their welfare, to establish and strengthen her empire in India.

“Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

“Her Majesty commands us to thank you for the judicious liberality with which you have made provision for the exigencies of the public service.

“The present state of the revenue authorises her Majesty to entertain a confident hope that the supplies which you have granted will be found fully adequate to the demands upon them.

“My Lords and Gentlemen,

“The sanitary condition of the metropolis must always be a subject of deep interest to her Majesty, and her Majesty has readily sanctioned the act which you have passed for the purification of that noble river, the present state of which is little creditable to a great country, and seriously prejudicial to the health and comfort of the inhabitants of the metropolis.

“Her Majesty has also willingly assented to an act whereby greater facilities are given for the acquisition by towns and districts of such powers as may be requisite for promoting works of local improvement, and thus extending more widely the advantages of municipal self-government.

“Her Majesty trusts that the act which you have passed for the future government of the Scotch Universities will be found highly advantageous to those venerable institutions, and will greatly promote and extend a system of sound, moral, and religious education in Scotland.

“The Transfer of Land Bill, which extends the power hitherto exercised by the Encumbered Estates Commissioners, and facilitates the acquisition of an indefeasible title by purchasers of land in Ireland, cannot fail to be highly beneficial to the landed proprietors, and to advance the prosperity of that part of her Majesty's dominions.

“The act to which her Majesty has assented for the establishment of the colony of British Columbia was urgently required in consequence of the recent discoveries of gold in that district; but her Majesty hopes that this new colony on the Pacific may be but one step in the career of steady progress by which her Majesty's dominions in North America may ultimately be peopled in an unbroken chain, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, by a loyal and industrious population of subjects of the British Crown.

“Her Majesty thankfully acknowledges the diligence and perseverance which have enabled you, in a comparatively short time, to pass these and other measures of inferior but not insignificant importance.

“Many of you, in returning to your respective counties, have extensive influence to exercise and duties to perform, of hardly less value to the community than those from the labours of which you are about to be released; and her Majesty entertains a confident assurance that, under the guidance of Providence, that influence will be so employed, and those duties so performed, as to redound to your own honour, and to promote the general welfare and the happiness of a loyal and contented people.”

Parliament was then formally prorogued until the 19th October, and the proceedings terminated at half-past three o'clock.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

THE Indian news of the present week—using the word “news” not in the sense of detailed accounts of events already known, but in that of absolutely fresh intelligence—is literally nothing. There have been no telegrams whatever up to the moment we are writing. The capture of Gwalior seems to have led to a pause on both sides, and it appears to be Sir Colin's intention to spare his troops any further action on a large scale until the hot weather and the rains have passed. With the approach of winter, we are to have a vigorous campaign; for it is quite certain that, though we hold the towns, the enemy possess the greater part of the open country. In the lull that has now set in, people are beginning to criticise the Commander-in-Chief in the spirit in which we wrote in our leading columns last week. “A Disabled Officer,” just returned from India, writes a long treatise in the *Times* of Thursday and Friday, to show that Sir Colin has been dilatory, over-cautious, and self-opinionated, and to show that our position in India is by no means the comfortable one suggested by sanguine journalists at home. The *Times* replies by pointing to the victories of Sir Colin, by displaying to the best advantage our capture of the great towns, by calling attention to some inconsistencies on the part of the “Disabled Officer,” and by hinting that he has “disabled himself.” Still, it is unquestionable that the officer has done some damage to the reputation of the Highland warrior who commands our armies in India. Thus he summarises the bill of indictment:—

“Here is the result of Sir Colin's campaign, with all the power of England at his back:—November: Cawnpore to Lucknow, relief of garrison, abandonment of Lucknow, and back to Cawnpore. December: Nothing. January: To Futteghur; would have beaten the Nawab, but Colonel Seaton had done it beforehand. February: Back to Cawnpore, and nothing. March 1st to 15th: Capture of Lucknow, and escape of enemy. 15th to 31st: Nothing. April: Nearly nothing. Several small successes, and increasing boldness of the enemy. May: Capture of Bareilly, and escape of the enemy. Repeated combats of Shahjehanpore. Lucknow surrounded by the rebels. Doab disturbed and plundered. Benares districts invaded. In Behar, guerrilla war maintained by the enemy. Great loss of Europeans

from the sun, and the country more disturbed than when the Commander-in-Chief took the field.”

The general position in Oude and elsewhere is sketched as follows by the “Disabled Officer”:

“By my last accounts, General Grant was humbly occupying a position on or near the Cawnpore road, merely keeping open communications. The northern enemy enjoying complete impunity had, it seems, driven in our posts almost or quite to the gates of Lucknow, are hanging, mutilating, and bullying all who have had any communication with us, and in constantly increasing numbers threaten attacks on Lucknow itself. In fact, so far as I can hear (and I can very well believe it), in Oude we hold nothing beyond the town of Lucknow; the rest of the country is more defiant than ever, and we are pressed to hold our own. The garrison of Lucknow is very strong, from 8000 to 10,000 men exclusive of General Grant's strong column; but there are very many sick, and the orders are said to be stringent against fighting except on the defensive. Even in the Doab our posts are taken and burnt; now here, now there, by a dying enemy whom we cannot hope to overtake. Calpee and Banda, close to the Commander-in-Chief ever since he took the field, have been taken; but, instead of in November from Cawnpore, it has been in May from Bombay and Madras. There is now, I see, news that the Oude rebels are again invading Goruckpore—a part of the country where there is little to resist them. In fact, whichever way we turn, we find that, for the first time since last July, [July, 1857?] it is the enemy who are everywhere the aggressors. They stand nowhere, but appear everywhere. They are very strong in cavalry, and their cavalry has acquired a spirit which it never had before. Everywhere it vigorously pushes us. Our troops, which in the cold weather would have done anything, are now physically unfit to follow the enemy, and dying and sickening at a rate which it is fearful to contemplate. And yet it is impossible that they should rest. The enemy will not consent to an armistice till Sir Colin can make new combinations.

“A little dash might have rapidly extinguished the fire. The opposite system involves the cost of a great war on a more than European scale of expense, which cannot by any possible means be supported by an Asiatic revenue. It is in this light that the people of England must view it. They may, if they like, support Sir Colin Campbell. Let them send him fifty thousand more men at once, and keep up the supply. Authorise him to raise a couple of hundred thousand in India. He may (for we will not take a gloomy view of the case) possibly then, in course of time, achieve the suppression of the rebellion. But the bill will be fearful, and England must pay it.”

Some details of recent events we give below:—

PROCLAMATION TO THE OUDE INSURGENTS.

Lord Canning has issued the following ultimate proclamation to the Oude insurgents:—

“The Right Honourable the Governor-General hereby notifies, for the information of all those concerned in the present rebellion, his ultimate views and intentions regarding principals, seconds, and followers engaged in the same during the past twelve months.

“To all parties immediately concerned in the murder of Christian British subjects, no hope of pardon, or arrest, can be held out; they must pay the forfeit the laws of this and every civilised country have decreed to a mere brutal and gratuitous slaughter of the unprepared, the defenceless, and the innocent; they are out of the pale of humanity, and the magnitude of their offences while they live will ever call aloud for retribution. With these, the British Government can make no terms.

“To all those who have offered asylum to refugees or others, being the murderers of Christian British subjects, and knowing them to have been such, or who have been leading movers against the authority of the British Government, and have persistently aided throughout this rebellion against the constituted paramount power of the land, the Right Honourable the Governor-General can offer only terms of life; their punishment will be proportioned to the offences they have committed against the State. All those who shall surrender on or before the 30th day of December next, will have their lives guaranteed to them, after which date, should they continue in arms or in opposition to the Government, their several cases shall be summarily dealt with by the authority in whose hands they may chance to fall, whether civil or military.

“To all others, seconds to principals, Zemindars, Sepoys disbanded, fugitives throughout the country, or any persons whatsoever in arms against the Government, not acting on his own free will and authority, but aiding and abetting some principal, the Right Honourable the Governor-General offers at once a general amnesty. Let them return to their homes and pursue their ordinary avocations, using their best endeavours to maintain peace and quiet. Their estates shall be guaranteed, and an act of oblivion thrown over the past. Should they, however, still continue to bear arms against the British power, they must bear the consequences of their own acts. The time for clemency will have passed away.”

MISCELLANEOUS FACTS.

We derive some items of news from the Indian newspapers:—

“Sir Colin Campbell has issued a complimentary order

to the troops upon going into cantonments, and active operations of any magnitude are now suspended until the end of the rainy season.

"The Governor-General, it is said, is about to leave Allahabad for Calcutta, with the view of returning to Europe.

"Among the officers killed at Gwalior, are Lieutenants Neave, 71st Highlanders, Ridley, 14th Light Dragoons, and Rose, 25th Bombay Native Infantry.

"Mr. Russell, the *Times* Special Correspondent in India, who has arrived at Simla, is still a great sufferer, and not able to walk, from the severe injury caused by the kick of his horse.

"Two of the murderers of Mrs. Matthews, in Agra, have been hanged. They were principals in the act, and the case was a very horrid one. The deceased was a very old woman; they stripped her and covered her with straw, to which they set fire, hoping by this torture to induce her to show where her money was hidden. The ruffians died as they had lived, fanatics to the last. They addressed the crowd, and said, 'Salaam, Hindoos and Mussulmans; take notice, we die for our religion.' Their bodies were sent to the dissecting school. Two of the principals in the murder of the Tehsildar of Bah, in February, have also been hanged."

Sir James Outram has taken, or is about to take, a trip from Calcutta to Galle, and back, for the benefit of his health.

The persons who drew up the celebrated Calcutta petition for the recall of Lord Canning, have published a reply to some remarks by the Governor-General. They vindicate their original statements, and deny that they ever encouraged a desire for indiscriminate vengeance on the insurgents.

DEATH OF THE MOULVIE OF LUCKNOW.

We read in the *Delhi Gazette* :—

"On the 15th of June, the Moulvie arrived from Mahomdee at Powayne, about sixteen miles north-east of Shajehanpore, with a considerable body of cavalry and some guns; he surrounded the Gurree of the Rajah of that place, by name Juggernath Singh, and first demanded that the Tehsildar and Thannadar, who had taken refuge with the Rajah, should be given up to him; his request being refused, he commenced his attack upon the place. The Rajah and his two brothers, Buldeo Singh and Komul Singh, led out their force to oppose the Moulvie. The fight is said to have lasted nearly three hours. The Moulvie was shot, and the moment he fell, his head was cut off by order of Buldeo Singh. The head and trunk were sent in to Shajehanpore to Mr. Gilbert Money, the Commissioner there, by the Rajah of Powayne. The Rajah's former conduct has been, and still is, under investigation, regarding the part taken by him during the recent disturbances, more particularly with reference to his treatment of the unfortunate fugitives from Shajehanpore on the day of the mutiny, when they reached Powayne. The Rajah, under these circumstances, has felt himself 'under a cloud,' and has done this signal act to prove his fidelity and loyalty to our Government; and whether his former conduct was open to suspicion or not, he has, at any rate, done us excellent service in ridding us of one of the most determined of the rebel chiefs, and one of our greatest enemies."

THE RECAPTURE OF GWALIOR.

An elaborate account of the recapture of Gwalior by Sir Hugh Rose is given by the *Times* Bombay correspondent, who writes:—

"General Rose broke up his camp at the village of Sassowlee on the morning of the 16th of June, and marched towards Gwalior. Three miles to the eastward of the city and fort, and therefore between them and Sir Hugh's advance, lies the Moorar Cantonment, formerly the head-quarters of the Contingent. On reconnoitring the station, Sir Hugh found that it was occupied by the enemy in force. An immediate advance was ordered. The enemy's fire was at first smartly sustained, but the First Brigade turned their left flank, silenced the guns, and drove them through the whole length of the cantonment in rapid rout. Emerging at the other end of the lines on their proper right, the Second Brigade were upon them, and, as they fled towards the city, Horse Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry followed in hot emulation. For the two former arms the ground was little favourable; but the infantry, advancing in skirmishing order, made play with their rifles, and in one part of the field were engaged, if on a small scale, yet most desperately. A party of the Sepoys had taken refuge from the pursuing Horse Artillery in a deep and narrow nullah, out of which they kept up a fire from their muskets. A company of the 71st came up, and went straight at them. Wyndham Neave, leading the Highlanders, was shot dead at the edge of the ditch; but the next instant his men were down among the rebels, and his death was sternly avenged. Steadily the European bayonet bore down the native tulwar. The wounded Sepoy hugged the fatal steel, to deliver with his falling strength one last cut at his opponent. All that hate and despair could do was done, and in vain. Not a man left the ditch alive. The corpses numbered forty-three. Of the Highlanders, besides poor Neave, three were killed and five more or less severely wounded by sword cuts. No other loss is reported on the English side, and that of the rebels was light. But the Moorar

Cantonment was occupied, and, in anticipation of further and complete successes, an express was, as I have said, at once despatched to Scindia to bring him down to the scene of action. Meanwhile, Brigadier Smith's column—wing 8th Hussars, wing Bombay Lancers, the 95th, Bombay 10th Native Infantry, and a Bombay troop of Horse Artillery—joined, as I have said, by Orr and his men of the Hyderabad Contingent, was advancing from Antree, where the junction had taken place. Early in the morning of the 17th, the Brigadier was at Kota-ki-Serai, ten miles from Gwalior, on the little river Oomrar. Beyond this point, the road crosses or winds among successive ranges of hills till the plain in which Gwalior lies is attained. Below, and in front of the first of these ranges, the enemy's pickets were observed in Kota-ki-Serai when morning broke. Skirmishing parties of infantry were thrown across the stream, and a squadron of the 8th Hussars followed to reconnoitre, when they were fired upon from a concealed battery. An advance in force was now ordered; the cavalry charged and took the battery, of three guns, and the infantry carried and occupied the first range of heights. On our side, Lieutenant Reilly, of the 8th, was killed or died from sunstroke, and Crealock, of the 95th, and Anderson, of the Bombay Lancers, were wounded. On the side of the enemy is credibly reported to have fallen no less notable a person than the Rane of Jhansi. Either by the bullet of a rifleman or a fragment of a shell—for reports differ on this point, as they are likely to do—this determined and valiant, if cruel and abandoned, woman met an end not unfitting her soldierly qualities. Her body was not found; was burnt at once, it is said. The effects which she had saved from the general wreck at Jhansi fell to her rebel confederates.

"On the following day, the 18th, Smith's force remained quiet—only exchanging long shots with the enemy on the next range of heights, whose fire was annoyingly good—waiting to be joined by Sir Hugh Rose. Sir Hugh seeing that the strong positions of the enemy lay all in front of his subaltern officer, whose force alone might not be sufficient to carry them, determined to join him by a flank march with the greater part of his division. On the 18th, by a circuit of twelve miles to his left, through Kota-ki-Serai he attained his object. The following morning, reconnoissances of the positions of the enemy on their heights were met with smart resistance, and gradually, by the impetuosity of the rebels, were turned into a general action. The whole force advanced—the 86th in skirmishing order on the left, the 71st similarly on the right, the 95th and Bombay 25th and 10th Native Infantry supporting. The 86th took the troublesome guns and the heights opposite them; the 71st were equally successful. All the high ground cleared, the force appeared at the edge of the plain of Gwalior, about a mile broad. By three in the afternoon, after a running fight of more than five hours, the town of Gwalior was occupied, and the enemy were in full flight."

SANITARY MATTERS.

THE Quarterly Return of the Registrar-General has just been issued, and contains its usual array of interesting facts:—

"MARRIAGES.—30,034 marriages took place in the quarter that ended on March 31st; and consequently 60,068 persons married in the three months. The number is less by 6700 than the number of persons who married in each of the winter quarters of the two previous years, and is rather more than the number of persons who married in the hard winter of 1855.

"INCREASE OF POPULATION.—169,170 births and 107,193 deaths were registered [during the quarter ending June 30th]; and the natural increase of the population of England and Wales was 61,977 in 91 days; or 681 daily. The probable natural increase of the population of the United Kingdom was 1021 daily. In the preceding winter quarter, it was estimated at 750. 40,961 persons sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government emigration agents. After distributing proportionally 4084 of undistinguished birthplace, it appears that 1930 were of foreign, while 20,027 were of Irish, 4702 of Scotch, and 14,252 of English origin. Of the English emigrants, 5717 sailed to the Australian colonies, 1543 to the North American colonies, 6218 to the United States, and 774 to other places. The emigration is still decreasing; it was at the rate of 157 daily from England and Wales, 429 daily from the inhabitants of the United Kingdom. In the spring quarter of 1852, six years ago, 1375 of the people emigrated daily.

"PRICE OF PROVISIONS.—The prices of the principal articles of food have followed different rates; the price of the quarter of wheat has regularly fallen in the three months of April, May, and June of the years 1856, 1857, and 1858, from 68s. 8d. to 56s. 9d., and to 44s. 1d. a quarter; by the carcass at Lendenhall and Newgate Market beef was 5½d., 5½d., and 5½d.; and mutton, 5½d., 5½d., and 5½d. a pound. While the price of wheat fell the price of potatoes (York regents) rose from 80s. and 128s. to 163s. a ton, at the waterside market, Southwark. The prices of animal food declined, the price of wheat fell 36 per cent.; the price of potatoes rose more than 100 per cent. in the interval."

The Registrar-General's last Weekly Return states:—

"The deaths registered in London in the week ending last Saturday, July 31st, are 1161, and exhibit a slight increase on those of the previous week, when the number was 1132. In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1152; but as the deaths now returned occurred in a population which has annually increased, they can only be compared with the average after it has been raised in proportion to the increase—a correction which will make it 1267. The comparison thus made shows a reduction of more than 100 in the deaths of last week, but it is necessary to remark that cholera was spreading with great violence in the last week of July, 1849, and with diarrhoea was fatal in 1007 cases; that the same epidemic had commenced at this time in 1854; and therefore the average, which comprises both periods, is too high to be used for comparison in a season which, like the present, is comparatively healthy. It will be found that the mortality of last week approaches very near an average derived from non-epidemic seasons. . . .

"The mortality from diarrhoea shows an increase, the deaths having risen from 127 in the previous week to 168 last week. Five occurred in the sub-district of St. Mary, Paddington, five in Camden-town, nine in Islington East, six in Christchurch (Southwark), five in Lambeth Church sub-district, second part. Fifteen deaths are referred to "cholera," and twelve of these occurred to children. In the case of a man who died in Black Bull-yard, Gray's-inn-lane, the disease is returned as 'Cholera Asiatica.' . . .

"The three oldest persons whose deaths are in this return are a man aged ninety-four years, and two widows who were ninety-five. Last week, the births of 877 boys and 780 girls, in all 1657 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1459."

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

GUILDFORD.—A meeting of Liberal electors at Guildford took place on Friday week. All the Liberal candidates were invited; but the chief speakers were Mr. Campbell and Mr. Murrough, both of whom expressed their entire concurrence with the principles of Reform and progress. A resolution was ultimately passed, to the effect that the Liberal electors should select a candidate from the three gentlemen at present in the field, and agree to give him their individual support. It was stated that Mr. Onslow (one of the candidates) will not enter into any arrangement of that kind.

SOUTH DEVON.—The Conservatives met at the Globe Hotel, Newton Abbott, last Saturday afternoon, to select a candidate to succeed Lord Charston in the representation. Mr. S. T. Kekewich, of Teamore, near Exeter, was nominated; and the election was to take place yesterday.

THE REPRESENTATION OF MANCHESTER.—Mr. Thomas Fairbairn has issued an address, in which he announces his intention of contesting the borough of Manchester when a vacancy occurs. He states that his political opinions are "sincerely and truly Liberal," but that he is not "a radical." He is opposed to the Ballot, and does not desire either universal or household suffrage; but "would assimilate the franchise in counties, and boroughs, lower the present standard, and at once adopt machinery by which many professional and educated men, at present disqualified, should be entitled to vote."

AMERICA.

GENERAL JOHNSTON entered Salt Lake City on the 26th of June. The Mormons were invited to return and take possession of their deserted homes; but Provo still remained their rallying point.

The British Minister in Mexico has received orders to suspend diplomatic relations with Zuluaga's Government, unless a better disposition is evinced with regard to making reparation for the claims of English subjects.

The *New York Tribune* regards the new line of steamers between the United States and Galway as a fixed fact. It thinks that a small contract is anticipated (and as good as obtained already) by Mr. Lever and his associates.

A resolution declaring want of confidence in the Canadian Ministry has been lost by a vote of 37 to 48.

Mexico appears to have reached almost the lowest stage of anarchy and abasement. The writer of a letter from that country says:—"Several thousand Mexicans are actively engaged in committing robbery, violation, and murder, and hardly a day passes but we have to lament some atrocity perpetrated by the numerous sections of the 'Constitutionalist army,' almost entirely made up of notorious criminals. I need only allude to the sacking of all the peaceful and inoffensive villages and towns that came in their way, and especially to the pillage of Guanajuato, which took place a few days since, in spite of the garrison stationed there, consisting of about three hundred men. The Constitutionals, in much greater numbers, and headed by General Puebla, who was himself formerly a professional highway robber, fought a regular battle with the garrison, and killed about half of it in the first encounter. The remainder of

the garrison under the command of General Moray Villamil, retired to one of the adjacent hills, while the victorious ruffians took possession of the town and immediately began their work of horror and destruction. The scenes that ensued are too disgusting to be described; they must, indeed, have been of a diabolical character to have worked the species of miracle which then took place—i.e. that even the apathetic and cowardly inhabitants of a Mexican city fired up with indignation, rose in arms to the rescue of their wives and daughters, and drove their hateful invaders out of the town, not, however, without very severe losses on the part of the tradesmen, whose shops were pillaged. Another populous town, Salamanca, had suffered the same fate two or three weeks previously; in fact, similar scenes are to be seen now in all directions. As a matter of course, business is completely stopped in every way and in every direction; the high roads are quite lonely for want of safety; and, to crown this mass of evils, there is no prospect of either of the contending parties getting the mastery, and thus putting an end to the strife.

Peru is tranquil for the present; but it is feared that another revolution will break out during the August elections.

A case of Lynch law has taken place in Texas. Three men went to the house of a Mr. Graves, and finding only the daughter there—a girl of twelve—they beat, abused, and threatened her, to induce her to say where her father's money was. She was not able to tell, nor could they find any. They then left; and Mr. Graves, on returning home and learning what had happened, raised a company of men, and speedily caught two of the ruffians. After administering several lashes to them, they confessed separately, and without previous concert, that they belonged to a secret and organised clan of thieves, provided with regular passwords, signs, a peculiar dress, &c. These men were about to hold a secret convention, for the purpose of effecting a more complete organisation. The names of thirteen of the men were given; and subsequently the third man engaged in the attempted robbery was apprehended, and confirmed the tale, adding thirteen more names of members of the gang.

The latest intelligence from the United States, which arrived on Thursday by the Fulton, mentions that the army at Salt Lake was to enter the city on the 26th ult. No one was to leave the ranks, and good order was to be maintained. Governor Cumming had issued his pardon, and peace was proclaimed to the inhabitants of Utah. According to one account, General Johnston had actually entered the Salt Lake City without molestation from any quarter.

From Kansas we learn that General Calhoun has issued certificates of election to all persons elected under the Leecompton Constitution, by which the Free-State party have a majority in both branches of the Legislature.

The Secretary of the Navy at Washington is making arrangements to send a sufficient force to Paraguay, to uphold the dignity of the American flag.

IRELAND.

Mr. SPURGEON is about to appear at Belfast, the headquarters of Irish Protestantism.

M. AMEDEE DE MEHIN, a French gentleman residing in Dublin, where he dealt extensively in foreign wine and brandy, has put an end to his life by inflicting two severe gashes, one in his left arm, and the other in his throat.

THE INDIAN EMPIRE, the first of the Galway line of Transatlantic steamships, arrived at that port on Thursday, having accomplished her first journey to and from New York. She brings back a considerable number of passengers, and a large cargo.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THE Emperor, the Empress, and their suite, left St. Cloud on Tuesday morning, at half-past nine, for Caen, on their way to Cherbourg. They stopped at various towns on their way, and at these the Emperor received addresses and ovations. During the absence of the Emperor, and that of Prince Jerome Napoleon, who is taking sea baths at Havre, Prince Napoleon, Minister for Algeria and the Colonies, will preside over the Council of Ministers.

The reports of the health of Marshal Bosquet are that he is slightly better; but there seems no chance of his being able to assume the command of his military district at the appointed time.

The *Echo Agricole* says that the rain which has fallen lately has retarded the harvest in all those localities where the crops are not already secured. It also says:—"From all the information we can collect we may arrive at a positive conclusion that the harvest will be inferior to that of last year. In general, the grain will be less heavy, the sheaves less numerous, and the yield of the ear less productive."

The introduction of bull-fights into the South of France is denounced in the last annual report of the French Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; and the public are called upon to aid in their suppression. The Society also reprobates the iniquitous

practice of sending worn-out horses to the marshes for the nourishment of leeches.

"M. Baze, Quæstor of the Legislative Assembly which was dissolved by the *coup d'état*, and who escaped to Belgium, was pardoned some time ago," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "at the intercession of Jasmin, the poet of Agen, of which town he is a native. At the time, he refused to profit by the pardon; but he now returns to France, and his name is restored to the list of the Agen bar, of which he was a distinguished member."

Mr. Sams, of St. James's-street, London, was admitted, on Sunday, to a private audience of the Emperor, at the Palace of St. Cloud, for the purpose of submitting to his Majesty, on the part of the committee, the plan for the Dramatic College, or asylum, at Langley, and soliciting his support of it, which the Emperor promised.

The Princess Czartoryska, daughter of Queen Christina, has been confined in Paris.

Count Portalis is dead.

BELGIUM.

A great calamity has occurred at Antwerp. At two o'clock on the morning of the 2nd instant, the Exchange was totally destroyed by fire. Nothing was saved. All the archives of the administrative bodies are destroyed.

Prince Frederick William, Regent of the kingdom of Prussia, accompanied by M. de Mantouff, President of the Council of Ministers, and by a numerous suite, arrived last Saturday evening at Ostend. The Prince will remain there for sea-bathing until the arrival of the Queen of England. The Grand Duchess Helen of Russia has also arrived at Ostend.

The Chamber of Deputies, by a vote of 53 members against 39, has rejected the Government measure for the fortification of Antwerp.

SPAIN.

The Queen has arrived at Oviedo (Asturias). She will not visit Galicia. Her progress has been marked, according to accounts in the Spanish papers, with great enthusiasm; but this is what we always hear of Royal progresses.

The law concerning the press is being enacted without modification. New seizures have taken place.

The *Correspondencia Autografa*, a semi-official organ of Madrid, of the 29th ult., says:—"The English Government, with an uprightness which does it honour, has just given satisfaction to the complaints of Spain on the subject of the insulting conduct of the commander of the English cruiser Buzzard, who visited vessels in the waters of Cuba. The English Government, which on the first news of what had taken place hastened to declare, through its representative, that it disapproved in the most formal manner of the conduct of its cruiser, has just nobly confirmed in writing that declaration, and in a manner the most satisfactory to Spain."

The Government is said to have definitively resolved to divide Spain into five great military commands, and to confide the principal one, that of the provinces of Madrid, Valencia, and the Balearic Isles, to the Marquis del Duero; but the sanction of the Cortes will be necessary for the execution of the project. All the journals complain of the rigour of the existing law on the press, and call on the Government to modify it.

SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Assembly has annulled the Presidential elections, in consequence of the mistake which occurred in the counting of the votes. At the new election, which immediately took place, Staempfli was nominated President by 68 votes against 61 for Frey-Herrosse. Frey-Herrosse was elected Vice-President by 69 votes against 41 for Knusel. Staempfli and Frey-Herrosse have accepted their nominations. The Federal Assembly is dissolved, and will meet again on the 10th of January.

TURKEY.

The Government of the Turkish Empire having despatched an order that the Turkish troops should withdraw from the Montenegrin frontier, Prince Danilo, on his part, has withdrawn the Montenegrin force which he had charged with its defence. Nevertheless, there have been collisions. The Turks attacked Beri, and the Voivode was killed by the Colachins; on which the Montenegrins attacked the Colachins, and drove them back. Prince Danilo has since arrested the officers who disobeyed his orders. They will be imprisoned and cashiered.

Sami Pasha, the new Governor of Candia, has degraded Seefik Effendi, member of the Council, who is accused of having excited the Mahomedan populace to the outrages committed on the 3rd of July on the corpse of the Greek homicide.

Two hundred persons supposed to have taken part in the Jeddah massacre have been arrested. According to an article in the *Paris Monitor*, the French and English Governments have come to an understanding with the Porte on the subject of reparation. The conduct of the Ottoman authorities is to be strictly inquired into, and all guilty persons will be duly punished. The towns having any share in the massacre will, moreover, be forced to pay indemnities to all who have suffered either in person or property.

The Sultan has granted a *rente viagère* of 120,000 francs to the daughter of the French Consul who was massacred at Jeddah.

The plague has broken out at Bengazi.

Lamentable accounts are still given of the state of Bosnia, where the Christians, it is said, are cowed by the incredible ferocity of the Turkish soldiery. Villages are burnt, flocks are slaughtered, and the Christians seek safety in flight to Austria. According to one account, however, they are in full insurrection.

In Candia, three hundred armed Turks attempted to march against the Christians, but were prevented by the arrival of the Minister of Police. The Pacha commanding at Jerusalem has been forced to go in hot haste to Gaza, to save the place from pillage and massacre.

A deputation from the Herzegovine insurgents has arrived at Trevigne to state its grievances. The Ottoman Commissioner promises them the same immunities as are enjoyed by other Christians of the empire.

ITALY.

The *Genoa Gazette* gives an account of a sanguinary scene which has just taken place in that city. Signor Brunetto, an officer in the 11th regiment of infantry, married some years since a young lady to whom he was much attached; but, as the marriage took place without the authorisation of his superior officer, he was obliged to quit the service. He then got a situation in a public office, and lived very happily until a feeling of jealousy was excited in his mind by the attentions paid his wife by a young lieutenant in a regiment of the garrison, named Deandreis. Determined to satisfy his doubts, he wrote a letter to the office to excuse his absence, but went out as usual and concealed himself near his own residence. He had not been long on the watch when he saw the lieutenant enter the house. In a few minutes, Signor Brunetto went in unperceived, and found the officer in his wife's bedroom. Carried away by rage, he drew forth a poignard and rushed on the lover; but his wife, throwing herself between them, received the blow in her breast. Although mortally wounded, she had strength enough to descend the staircase, but fell dead on reaching the bottom. The lieutenant afterwards received a severe wound in the side, but succeeded in reaching the street, followed by Signor Brunetto, who endeavoured to inflict on him fresh wounds. Some passers-by, however, interposed and disarmed him. Signor Brunetto was arrested and sent to prison, and the lieutenant was conveyed to the hospital, where he lies in a dangerous state.

The King of Naples has lately authorised several exiles to return to their country, and has restored to liberty some political prisoners. Among the former are the well-known Father Ventura, the Duke della Verduna, and M. Scalia, who represented the Sicilian revolution in London.

Prince Orsini, Senator of Rome, and head of the municipality, being unable to agree with the Municipal Council, has resigned. He had done so several times before, but the resignation has not hitherto been accepted. Now, however, it has been, and the Prince will be succeeded by the Marquis Antici Mattei.

According to letters from Turin, the recent conference between the Emperor of the French and Count de Cavour at Plombières was on the general situation of the affairs of Italy, and terminated in a strong recommendation from his Majesty to the Minister to adopt a moderate and circumspect policy both towards Austria and Naples.

"At this moment, seven o'clock," says a letter from Salerno, of the 27th ult., "preparations are being made for embarking the prisoners lately sentenced for their several destinations. All are sentenced to irons. The foreigners, it is said, will be sent to Favignana, on the Sicilian coast, and the Neapolitans to Pescara, in the Abruzzi. Nicotera, Gagliani, and Valletta will leave for Naples to-night in a carriage, accompanied by an officer of the Grand Court. The decree of commutation was read to them this morning. The three prisoners above named are sentenced to the *ergastolo* for life. The other four, who were to have been executed, are sentenced to irons for thirty years, and so are nine others. No other commutation of punishment is granted. All are cheerful, and the whole city is assembled on the beach." Favignana is a small island, about five miles from the coast, and is described as a horrible place.

Carlo Troja, President of the Neapolitan Ministers in 1848, and the author of a History of the Middle Ages, died on the 28th ult., after long suffering. "By order of the police," says the *Daily News* Neapolitan correspondent, "no sooner was he dead than all persons were prohibited from approaching the house, and a guard was placed to enforce the order. Scarcely could the most intimate friend obtain permission to remain there, and even then it was under the surveillance of the police. The body of the deceased was taken to the church of San Severino, accompanied by friars, monks, and servants, and the carriage of his brother, who, very unlike him, is now the President of the Ministers." The police followed the body to the grave, and several learned bodies, who wished to attend the funeral, were refused permission.

"The first pleasure train organised between Milan and Venice," says a letter from Turin in the *Augsburg Gazette*, "was lately converted by the Italianists into a political manifestation. Several hundreds of the Milanese were received at Venice by a large crowd with cries of 'Vive

"Italia! Viva i fratelli Lombardi!" At a grand promenade of gondolas given in honour of the Milanese, those in which Austrian officers and functionaries were seated were run against with great violence. Several of the gondolas also hoisted tri-colored flags. To the cries of *"Viva l'Italia!"* many of the crowd added, *"A basso l'Austria!"* The Austrian police took no notice of what occurred; but this first pleasure train will be the last.

AUSTRIA.

Christian refugees from Bosnia continue to cross the Austrian frontier, where they are well provided for by the Emperor's direct order. A military cordon has been established near the frontier to protect the Christians, and the Turks, on their side, have stationed a large force to intercept the fugitives.

Rumour at Vienna speaks of the concentration of an Austrian corps d'armée of 30,000 to 33,000 men of all arms in Southern Hungary, on the points nearest the Turkish, Bosnian, and Servian frontiers. According to rumour, this army is to be provided with provisions for one year, and with everything requisite for it to take the field immediately, should circumstances render it necessary. The *Cologne Gazette* gives a similar rumour, but with a far less number of troops.

GERMANY.

"The German-Danish quarrel," says the *Morning Star*, "has now arrived at a serious crisis. The special committee of the Federal Diet has recommended the rejection of the Danish proposition, and proposed that execution—that is, the entrance of Federal troops into Holstein, accompanied by Federal commissioners, to take the Government of the Duchy into their hands—should be proceeded with in a fortnight."

RUSSIA.

The efforts which Russia has been making for some time past to increase her navy are so considerable (says a letter from Poland in the *Vienna Gazette*) that her own building-yards are not sufficient for the purpose. She has had vessels built in England, France, and America, under the superintendence of officers of the Russian navy. The reorganisation of the Baltic fleet is now complete, and reckons twenty-seven ships of the line and several smaller vessels, without counting gunboats. As the number in the Black Sea has been reduced, the Government has endeavoured to compensate for this loss by increasing the flotilla in the Caspian Sea, and by creating a respectable naval force in Eastern Siberia and at the mouth of the River Amoor.

Kamiesh, the wooden seaport town erected by the French during the war in the Crimea, still exists, and boasts of inhabitants.

POLAND.

The Revolutionary Committee of London has, it is said, recently distributed in Poland copies of a manifesto exciting the Poles to rebellion. A copy has been seized by the authorities of Poznan.

HOLLAND.

The Minister of the Interior has submitted to the King a detailed report on a new submarine telegraphic line between the British and Dutch coasts. The Minister proposes, contrary to the opinion of his predecessors, to grant a new concession to M. Ruysenaers, who has obtained it from Hanover and Denmark.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

CHILD MURDER.—The wife of a collier at Nailsea has cut the throat of her little boy while, apparently, in a state of temporary insanity. She was then about to make a similar attack on her other children, but their cries brought assistance to the spot, on which the woman gashed her own throat, though not fatally. An inquest has been held on the body of the child, ending in a verdict of Wilful Murder against the mother, who will be committed for trial when sufficiently recovered.

DISCOVERY OF HUMAN REMAINS.—Four human skeletons have been discovered by the workmen employed in digging for the foundations of the Westminster Palace Hotel. They were found in the centre of the ground where formerly stood some old structures of a very disreputable character. The remains were probably those of persons who had been murdered; but an inquiry would now be fruitless, from lapse of time.

MURDER AT RYE.—John White, a man against whom a coroner's jury, on Friday week, returned a verdict for the wilful murder of his wife at Rye, was captured between four and five miles of that town last Saturday evening. He made very little effort to escape, saying that he could not leave his children, of whom he has seven. He confesses that he was the murderer. He was examined at the Town Hall, Winchester, on Tuesday, when a scene of unexampled pathos and misery took place. It was found necessary to administer water frequently to the prisoner, who was in a state of lamentable prostration; and, on his daughter being brought forward to give evidence, he uttered a terrible groan, fell on his knees, and exclaimed, "Oh, Lord, look down upon my poor soul, and my dear blessed wife! Oh, keep my children from temptation! Oh, let me see my children! The temptation has been too great for me." Several young girls who were present were so overcome at this that it was found necessary to take them out. The prisoner was attended to by medical men, and in

time became calmer, and shed tears. His daughter was removed, and another witness examined; on which the prisoner cried out, "Where is that girl? Oh, where is that girl?" adding, to one of the medical men, "Direct me, sir, direct me. Lost, lost!" One of the witnesses having alluded to the suspicions felt by the accused with respect to his wife's fidelity, the prisoner started up, clenched his fists, ground his teeth, and made a horrid noise. Several policemen restrained him, and he then said, "I won't hurt anybody." After a time, he asked, "Where are my poor boys?" The girl was again brought in, and screened from her father's observation; but, as she was leaving, he caught sight of her, cried out, "Oh, there is my girl!" and burst into tears again. Having been committed for trial, and been asked if he wished to say anything, he replied, "No, gentlemen. I want to see my children, if you please. Oh, let me see my children!" He was then removed to Lewes gaol.

A NEW TRICK.—A correspondent writing to the *Times*, mentions a new device of policy of the rogues who are always looking out for victims among the shop-keeping class:—"Mrs. Underwood, an elderly lady, keeps the post-office, and a small stationer's shop, in Ladbroke-grove, Notting-hill. On Friday last (July 30th) at eleven A.M., a man came to her shop for some note paper. At the same time, a smart dog-cart, no doubt driven by an accomplice, drove up, which the man in the shop, affecting to see it through the window, pointed out with the words, 'Holla, ma'am! here's somebody wants you.' Mrs. Underwood thereupon left her shop to attend to the driver, who, it is needless to say, contrived to detain her by questions about the post sufficiently long to enable the confederate in the shop to rob her and make off, and then drove away. Upon Mrs. Underwood returning in-doors, she found the man gone, and with him her cash-box, containing over 20*l.* in gold and some silver."

MURDER OF A BOY.—The dead body of a youth, sixteen years of age, was discovered a few days ago in a hayrack in a stable at Wick, near Berkeley, Gloucestershire. He had been missing for two days, and had last been seen in company of two carters, named Daniels and Bailey. It was Daniels who first announced the discovery of the body, which he did in a very cool and flippant manner. He and Bailey have been apprehended, and committed for trial on a charge of Wilful Murder.

MANSLAUGHTER ON A RAILWAY.—The adjourned inquest on the body of William Pine, the engine-driver, on the London and North-Western Railway, who came by his death in an accident on the Willesden junction, caused by the negligence of the pointsman, Henry Lamb, was brought to a conclusion on Tuesday, when the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Lamb, and appended the following remarks:—"The jury recommend that an extra man should be appointed to work the points, and that the men should be confined to their work and nothing else; also, that the telegraph signal-box should be placed just opposite the points. The jury also attach great blame to the manager of the North London Railway in consequence of the irregularities that mark the time of starting their Kew trains from their stations."

MURDER OF A YOUNG LADY BY HER LOVER.—Miss Mary Jane Scaife, the daughter of a farmer at Darley, near Ripley, on the line of the Leeds Northern Railway, was murdered on Sunday night by a young gentleman, named Atkinson, to whom she was engaged. Atkinson is the son of a flax-spinner, and he has been intimate with the young lady since they were both children together; but the mother of Miss Scaife and the father of Atkinson did not approve the match, and it was broken off for a time, during which interval Miss Scaife received the attentions of a Mr. Gill. But that intimacy was also put an end to, and the young lady again accepted Atkinson as her suitor. On Tuesday week, however, Atkinson saw Miss Scaife at a gala talking with Gill, and this appears to have awakened a strong feeling of jealousy. Nevertheless, the young couple went to chapel together on Sunday evening, and left in company. Miss Scaife did not return home; but it was thought she had gone to the house of her uncle, and no alarm was felt. Atkinson reached home a little after nine o'clock, and went to bed very soon. At daybreak, his brother, who slept in the same room, observed blood on his shirt, and asked the cause. Atkinson replied that he had murdered Mary Jane Scaife on the previous night; on which the brother roused the family, and told them the dismal news. In the mean while, the body had been discovered in a lane, with the throat cut, and the eyes starting from the sockets. Everything betokened that a frightful struggle for life had taken place. Atkinson was apprehended, and at the police office at Ripon made some vaunting remarks, among which were:—"I have been very happy ever since I left Pateley-bridge (the place to which he was first taken on being apprehended); I have committed a great crime, but I am quite content; I can go freely to the gallows; I can forgive the vilest of the vile; I am guilty; I left her about half-past nine o'clock last night." According to one account, Atkinson's brother slept in another room, and the murderer came in early in the morning, exclaiming, "What have I done? Oh, Lord, have mercy on me! What have I done? I have murdered Mary Ann Scaife." The noise of the death-struggle had been heard at a distance by some people, but they had not inquired into it. On

Wednesday, Atkinson was examined before the county magistrates at Knaresborough, and he then made a verbal confession of his guilt. The girl had refused to marry him, as she did not think they would be happy together. He then threatened to murder her, and ultimately clutched her round the throat. She cried out, and he released his hold, and walked on with her a little way further, but soon pulled out a knife, and showed it her. "She cried out, 'Let's go home, Jim—let's go home, Jim!'" Then I seized her and cut her throat, and she cried out, 'It's all my mother, Jim—it's all my mother that's caused this disturbance.' She cried out 'The Lord help me!' three times, to the best of my recollection, and then she fainted away, and I left her. I went over the wall, shut the knife, and put it in my waistcoat pocket. I went into the fields, and wandered about, perhaps an hour or an hour and a half. I laid me down and thought I would go and tell her parents, but I could not go. I then thought I would go to her again, and I went back; but, when I got a little way up the lane, my heart failed me and I couldn't go to her. Then I got over the other wall into the field on the other side. I took the knife out of my pocket again and opened it, and I put it in a wall top, after which I took across the fields home to a little dam of my father's, to wash the blood off my hands and face. I then crossed another field home. When I got home, my father and them were up. I did not go into the house. I went into the shed where the carts were, and sat me down until I thought they had all gone to bed. Then I went into the house. I could not eat any supper, and went to bed. I could not rest all the night." After this statement, Atkinson was committed for trial at the next York Assizes.

THE ASSIZES.

ALBERT HUSKEY TURNER was tried at Maidstone on Friday week on a charge of murdering his wife. He had some reason for supposing that a man named Taylor had been unduly familiar with her (though Taylor solemnly denied the fact at the trial); and, on the night of Saturday, April 17th, being greatly exasperated at a meeting which he supposed to have taken place, he struck her three times on the head with a poker, and then cut her throat. The act was first discovered by some lodgers in the room below, on to whose bed the blood dripped through the ceiling. Turner made no attempt to deny his guilt, but said he would rather see his wife lying dead than that she should live to be a prostitute. The defence simply sought to soften the charge from murder to manslaughter. The jury took this view of the case, and Turner was sentenced to penal servitude for life.

Captains Memham and Fox, who were recently committed for trial on a charge of murdering a sailor by throwing him overboard off Hamburg, have been acquitted at the Durham Assizes. The case for the prosecution broke down.

Mr. Frederick Swan Todd has been found guilty at Newcastle-on-Tyne of a murderous attack with a knife on Mr. George Tallentyre Gibson, a solicitor, in his office, on the night of the 24th of last March. The defence was a suggestion of insanity, caused by losses and misfortunes. Todd was sentenced to imprisonment for six months.

In the case of John Franklin, the man charged with the murder of Joseph Owen, at Ryton, near Coventry, the Grand Jury at Warwick threw out the bill.

Selina Cranmore, a married woman, has been tried at the same Assizes on a charge of strangling her infant in its cradle. It was clear, however, that she was insane at the time; and she was therefore acquitted. On the day on which the child was born, a neighbour hanged himself, which made so great an impression on the woman that she accused herself of being the cause of the act. She will be kept in an asylum till she is quite cured.

William Ayerst, a medical gentleman between eighty and ninety years of age, has been tried at Maidstone on a charge of being concerned with a quack named Baldwin (found guilty at the Spring Assizes) in the manslaughter of the wife of a labouring man. The case was one of imputed unskillfulness in the delivery of the woman during childbirth. The jury acquitted the accused.—A similar case has been tried at Guildford. The accused in this case was Mr. Francis Ward, a surgeon practising at Streatham; but the evidence altogether failed to prove negligence, and the accused was acquitted, with a compliment from the Judge.

William Barker, a farmer owning considerable property near Canterbury, was tried at Maidstone last Saturday on a charge of setting fire to some of his own buildings which were insured. He only applied to the fire-office for the exact value of the buildings destroyed; the object, therefore, was not to gain in the ordinary sense of the word; but it is thought that he wanted the insurance company to provide him with new buildings in the place of the old. He was found guilty; but Baron Bramwell postponed sentence, as Barker appeared to be of rather weak intellect. On a subsequent day, however, he was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

An action was brought at the same Assizes against Mr. John Webb Roche by a Miss Smith, to recover 62*l.* 10*s.* being five quarters' arrears of an annuity of 50*l.* granted

by the defendant to the plaintiff. In 1841, Miss Smith was in Germany, where she was engaged as governess in a high family, and Mr. Roche, who was stated to be an Irish gentleman, made her acquaintance. Ultimately, some form of marriage, which turned out to be of no legal value, was gone through by a person whom Mr. Roche represented to be a clergyman, and after this they lived together as man and wife until 1845, when Miss Smith again accepted a situation as governess in Germany; but Mr. Roche insisted that she should return and live with him, stating that she was his wife. They continued to live together until the year 1851, when Mr. Roche married, and at this time he wrote a letter to a gentleman named Shepherd, in which he requested him to break the "terrible tidings to dear Margaret" as well as he could, and to spare her feelings, and at the same time stated that he would always provide for her, and that he (Mr. Shepherd) might at once advance her money to the extent of 50*l*. That sum was accordingly given to the plaintiff, and Mr. Roche went to reside in Ireland. In 1852, finding she could not obtain any more money from him, Miss Smith went to Ireland and saw Mr. Roche, and he then executed the agreement which was the subject of the present action. Four children were the result of the connexion; but at this time only two were alive, and the agreement was to the effect that, upon consideration of the plaintiff educating and providing for the two children then alive, he undertook to pay Miss Smith 50*l*. per annum, by four quarterly instalments. The defence set up was purely technical. It was contended that no legal consideration had been proved for the annuity, and also that, as one of the children had died, it could not be enforced, the original understanding being that the money was to be paid for the support and education of two children. The jury eventually returned a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed, the questions of law being reserved for further consideration.

Daniel Cummins has been found guilty of wounding Mr. John Mulley in a third-class carriage on the Brighton Railway, on the 28th of March. The man first attempted to rob the prosecutor, and, on being resisted, he made a savage attack, and endeavoured to throw him out of window. In this he would have succeeded had not Mr. Mulley been a very powerful man; but it was only with difficulty that he saved himself. At the Catterham station, Cummins was given into custody, and conveyed to Croydon; but he resisted so violently that it required six constables to put him into the police cell. The defence now raised was that the man was insane; and the Judge said that the state of his mind should be properly inquired after. Meanwhile, he was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

A case, arising out of the deadly feuds of Protestants and Roman Catholics, was tried at Newcastle on Monday. Five men (Protestants), named Johnson, Sayer, Sloan, Bertram, and Cameron, had been drinking at a beer-shop in the suburbs of Newcastle on the 30th of May, and, meeting with some Irish Catholics, there was a fight, in the course of which one John Cain was killed. The five men alluded to were now tried on a charge of manslaughter, and a verdict of Guilty was returned against Sayer and Sloan, and of Not Guilty with respect to the rest. Sentence on the two former was postponed.

Edward Mendeveille Morton, a young man of respectable appearance, has been tried at Guildford on a charge of obtaining money by false pretences. It appeared that, for some time past, he had carried on an extensive and impudent system of swindling in various parts of the country. He conducted his own defence, and asserted, with respect to one of the chief witnesses against him (a Catholic), that persons of that religion would tell any amount of falsehoods; and that he had himself acquired habits of lying from having once been a Papist himself, though he had now ceased to be one. He had endeavoured to gain his living by literature; but the booksellers would not purchase any of his works because he had no name; and, as he could not starve, he was compelled to resort to false pretences in order to obtain subsistence. He was found guilty, and sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

The practice of policemen in acting as spies on prisoners, with a view to extracting confessions from them, was severely condemned at the Bodmin Assizes on Tuesday by Mr. Baron Watson. Richard Rashleigh was indicted for burglary; and it appeared that a policeman, after the man had been apprehended, had gone disguised and handcuffed into his cell, and that the prisoner, thinking the officer a fellow captive, had made some statements with respect to the burglary. The jury acquitted Rashleigh, and the Judge said he hoped the magistrates would take notice of the conduct of the policeman.

Henry Bloomfield, a farmer, pleaded guilty on Wednesday at Chester to the charge of having murdered his wife. Immediately he had pleaded, he burst into tears, and continued to cry bitterly during the whole proceedings. As it appeared probable that he was not in a fit state of mind to plead, Mr. Justice Crompton ordered the plea to be struck out, and empanelled a jury to decide as to the prisoner's mental condition. They found that he was insane and unfit to plead. His lordship then ordered that he should be kept in safe custody during her Majesty's pleasure. Bloomfield, it seems, was under the impression that his wife had been unfaithful to him, that

he was under the special grace of God, and that he was bound to plead guilty, in order to be put out of the world.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

A SINGULAR application was made to the Worship-street magistrate last Saturday. A woman attended with a young girl, her daughter, and said she had been married with her consent, and that her husband had deserted her on the following day. The husband was in court, and proved to be a youth of eighteen, which was also the age of the girl. He was accompanied by his father, who said he was quite thunderstruck when he first heard of his son's marriage. The account given by the girl's mother was, that the youth had frightened her daughter into marrying him by threatening to kill her if she refused, and that he merely sought the marriage in order to spite another suitor. The boy-husband, on the other hand, said that the mother had cajoled him into the union. The most important point at issue was as to whether the marriage had been consummated. The bride asserted that it had been; the husband said it had not. All parties expressed a great desire for a divorce; and the magistrate said that if, as the husband stated, the marriage was simply confined to the ceremony, a divorce might be obtained, though at great expense, from the Ecclesiastical Court, as the bride and bridegroom were both under age. The parents then left the court with their children.

Harriet Scholoryk, the young woman charged with being concerned with the convict Van Popler in the commission of several burglaries, was finally examined at the Wandsworth police-office last Saturday, when she was sentenced to two months' hard labour. The magistrate also ordered that the pawnbrokers should deliver up all the property that had been identified, as he considered they had taken it very incautiously.

Henry Bunbury, the son of the late Major-General Bunbury, was charged at Guildhall, on Monday, with forging and uttering three bills of exchange for 100*l*., 50*l*., and 40*l*., with intent to defraud Mr. Hobson, a tailor, of 4, Finsbury-place, South. The bills were ostensibly accepted by a Mr. Parkin, a solicitor. After the reception of the evidence, the accused made a long and rather singular statement. He said:—"I wish to state, relative to Mr. Parkin and Mr. Hobson, that I have a claim upon their property; that I hold Mr. Parkin's acknowledgment, in his own handwriting, of his not having paid me the sums agreed to; that the letters I showed Mr. Hobson were not forgeries, but *bona fide* letters; that every party belonging to the family, solicitor and all, have received notice from me that I have never received the sums stipulated to be paid to me; and that for that very reason I claimed a share in the estate, although Mr. Parkin and his clients did all they could to shut me out. I also wish to state that, at Crane-court, Fleet-street, at the Scottish Hospital, of which Major Adair is the secretary, I signed various mortgages to the amount of 6000*l*. and upwards, and at the end of each mortgage there was a receipt drawn out acknowledging that I had received a fair proportion of the property for that mortgage, whereas all that I received was 245*l*. I was to have 250*l*., but they kept back 5*l*. because they got me 50*l*. a day earlier than agreed upon. They then purchased my equity of redemption for 50*l*., which I sold on their promise to keep good faith with me, which they did not. Upon the death of my father, knowing they had not a leg to stand upon, and that I was in want of money, they got me to sign a deed of confirmation of the past, for which they were to have given me 250*l*. then, and to leave the rest until a future day when the estate came to be wound up. I received part of that money when I signed the deed, and, with regard to the rest, Mr. Parkin wrote to say that it should be forwarded on my making application for it. I did make repeated application, and got a few pounds in 'drabs and drabs'; but the balance I never got. To prove how they got my property into their hands, I wish to say that the firm of Messrs. Gaston, Aguilair, and Ballier, cement manufacturers, got mortgages from me for goods which they contracted debts for and never paid, leaving me liable; and one mortgage alone, for 1500*l*. Mr. Parkin bought on behalf of his clients for 250*l*.,—showing how little they thought of the validity of the mortgage." The prisoner was committed for trial.

The old soldier who last week imposed on Mr. Combe, the magistrate, attended at the Southwark police-office again on Monday, to vindicate himself from the charge of being a swindler. The magistrate, however, said that his statements did not at all alter the case, and told him to leave the court.

A middle-aged man, of rather diminutive proportions, addressed Sir C. Cresswell, on Monday, in the Court of Probate, and said he appeared as a claimant for a portion of the property of the Duchess of York. His name was Frederick Augustus Sears. The Judge: "This is not the place for such an application. The court has nothing to do with the distribution of property held in trust." Applicant: "I am entitled to the property I claim. I was well acquainted with the late Duchess of York." The Judge: "You must make your application to the Court of Chancery. I may as well inform you, as you are in court, that you must not plead gentlemen's houses; in

the event of your doing so, you will be taken into custody by the police." The applicant, who appeared dis-appointed with his Lordship's directions, then withdrew.

An attack was made a few evenings ago by a gang of ruffians in St. Mary Axe on a Mr. John Ritchie, who was riding on horseback. They endeavoured to drag him off his horse, and to rob him, and it was with great difficulty that he got away. One of the scoundrels was apprehended, and was sent by the Lord Mayor to prison, with hard labour, for twenty-one days.

Mr. Beadon, the Marlborough-street magistrate, has been making some efforts to put down betting-houses, though he admits he is not very sanguine as to the result. John Scott, the landlord of the White Bear Hotel, Piccadilly, has been charged with keeping a betting-house; Charles Thorpe and Henry Reeves with aiding him in keeping the house; and John Bird with using the house. The police entered the hotel at various times, and found several persons there, betting. Scott, the landlord, was present, and was cognisant of the betting; and Thorpe and Reeves were his assistants. Bird received money upon bets. The magistrate considered the case proved with respect to Scott and Thorpe (whom he fined 30*l*. each) and Bird (whom he fined 10*l*.); Reeves he discharged. Scott said he would get rid of the house altogether. After the conclusion of the case, Mr. Beadon said he had received several anonymous letters, telling him he would never be able to put down betting or betting-houses; but he was determined nevertheless to administer the law with a firm hand.

An individual with a great many aliases, but whose real name appeared to be Parker, and who had traded as a merchant, came up in the Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday for his discharge. The application was opposed by Mr. Turner, on behalf of Mr. Ventom, a broker of the court. Shortly after obtaining a certificate on the occasion of his last bankruptcy (third class after twelve months' suspension), Parker obtained from Mr. Ventom the discount of a 200*l*. bill of exchange in the name of James Parker. Mr. Turner submitted that, if the bankrupt had given his real name, Mr. Ventom would not have lost his money. Mr. Oldershaw opposed for Messrs. Bedford, Berry, and Co., steel manufacturers, of Sheffield. It appeared from a protracted discussion that Messrs. Bedford and Co. trusted the bankrupt with 400*l*. worth of steel on receiving two bills of 200*l*. each, respectively payable at two and three months. The first bill was paid. On the second bill, the bankrupt was taken in execution. Having remained in prison seven months, he obtained his discharge on payment of 50*l*., and giving a new judgment for the remainder of the debt. In reply to questions from Mr. Commissioner Goulburn, the bankrupt said that Messrs. Bedford and Co. had given him credit without asking him a single question. He had at one time traded in the name of Truman Parker because he was expecting to be joined in partnership by a gentleman of that name. The Commissioner, observing that the bankrupt could be well punished when he came up for his certificate if he had acted fraudulently, ordered his discharge.

A young man named Richard Walker was tried at the Middlesex Sessions on Wednesday on a charge of assaulting a Mrs. Mills, at Dalston. Walker had been married on the very day in question, and was performing some feats with a broomstick when it flew into Mrs. Mills's garden. The young man went after it; a quarrel followed; and Walker snatched a poker out of the hands of Mrs. Mills, and struck her with it. The result was a fight between the partisans of the two sides, and the apprehension of Walker, who was obliged to pass his wedding night in a police cell. At the close of the case for the prosecution, a compromise was entered into, by which it was agreed that the accused should plead Guilty to a common assault, and he was then discharged on entering into recognizances to appear for judgment when called upon.

Otto Frederick Homeyer, merchant, of Wolgast, Prussia, was brought up at the Mansion-house on Wednesday, for final examination, charged with having forged and uttered two bills of lading, purporting to be for one thousand five hundred quarters of wheat, value 3700*l*., per ship Anna, from Wolgast, with intent to defraud Messrs. Tiedemann and Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne. He was committed for trial.

Michael Murphy, an itinerant musician with a wooden leg, has been examined at the Worship-street police-office on a charge of killing Eliza Simpson, a woman who lived with a workman at the docks as his wife. She was drinking late at night with Murphy, who was excessively intoxicated, and some quarrel arose between them. The man then knocked the woman down in the street, and kicked her with his wooden leg so savagely about the head that, after lingering for a day or two, she died. Murphy has now been committed for trial.

Richard Ralph, alias Norman, the man charged with defrauding a German named Brockhen, under circumstances related in full in our last issue, was brought up for re-examination on Wednesday; but, as the prosecutor did not appear (having returned to Germany), the accused was discharged.

The Rev. H. S. Blyth, curate of Bow, and superintendent of a large classical and commercial academy, who prosecuted a man named Thomas Smith, for stealing a large number of valuable books from Alfred-house, Bow, attended at the Thames police-office on Wednesday,

to make an explanation. The prisoner had asserted in palliation of his offence that he was engaged as assistant-master at 85*l.* per annum, but was only paid at the rate of 30*l.* per annum. The Rev. Mr. Byrth, in the absence of the proprietress of the school, could not give a contradiction to this statement; but he was now enabled to do so by the production of Smith's own receipts, three in number, each for a quarter's salary, from which it appeared that he had been paid (in accordance with the agreement entered into with him) 8*l.* 15*s.* per quarter, and that the first quarter's salary was paid in advance the first day he was engaged, and the others as they became due.

Crinoline is henceforth a suspected article with all Custom House officers. Ellen Casey, a well-dressed young woman, was observed by Mr. Gardner, a tide-surveyor of Customs, to exhibit great rotundity of person as she was preparing to leave a foreign steam vessel at St. Katherine's Wharf. He delicately alluded to the fact, which was attributed by the young woman to crinoline. Not satisfied, the suspicious Mr. Gardner handed the young woman over to one of the female searchers, who speedily delivered her of twenty-two pounds and a half of cigars. She pleaded guilty at the Thames police-office, and was sentenced to pay a fine of 100*l.* or to be imprisoned for six months. "You will have no faith in crinoline again?" inquired Mr. Yardley of the official. "Never, sir!" said that infidel, emphatically. "I shall always suspect every woman who wears crinoline." The ladies are now fairly warned. Let them look to it.

Catherine Dunn, the wife of a soldier who has served much in India, was tried at the Middlesex Sessions on Tuesday with stealing a pair of gloves in a haberdasher's shop. There appeared to be no doubt whatever as to her having taken the gloves; but it seemed probable that she was in a state of mental aberration owing to the climate of India (in which she had been with her husband) having affected her brain, to excitement with respect to the Indian massacres, and to her being then in the family way. The jury therefore acquitted her; at which there was some applause in court.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

An aged woman has been burnt to death in Olivie-street, Manchester. She lived with her sister, a Mrs. Latham, who, in the middle of the night, was awakened by hearing a crackling noise. She perceived that the adjoining bedroom, in which her sister slept, was on fire. An alarm was given, and the police and fire-engines soon arrived, but too late to save the life of the woman. The body was found on the floor at the foot of the bed, with the burning bedclothes wrapped round it. A candlestick was found on a small table near the bed, with the candle burnt down to the socket. It is supposed that the candle ignited the curtains, and that they set fire to the bed. The poor creature probably then got out of bed, and dragged the clothes off with her. She was eighty-four years of age, and very infirm.

Two brothers, named Henry and William Moul, residing at Kirby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham, were excavating a well on Monday afternoon. The younger brother, William, had occasion at one time to go down the well by means of a rope; and, when within a few yards of the bottom, he was heard to fall. Henry then took hold of the rope, with the intention of following him; but he also fell to the bottom. Assistance was procured, and, after an hour's exertion, the bodies were recovered, for both men by this time were dead. The foul air of the well had so affected them as to make them insensible, and therefore not able to retain their hold on the rope.

Two of the sufferers by the explosion of a large boiler at the works of Messrs. Morrison, Ouseburn, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday week, have died from the injuries they received. Their names are James Fielding and Charles Edwin. The other persons injured are recovering. An inquest has been formally opened and adjourned.

A melancholy accident took place about a week ago at the village of Minehead, Somersetshire. Mr. Gower, manager of the Tiverton branch of the National Provincial Bank of England, was recently married to a daughter of the late F. B. Beevor, Esq., solicitor, of Chancery-lane, London; and, immediately after the ceremony, the bride and bridegroom proceeded on an excursion to the principal towns and villages of Devonshire and Somersetshire. Having arrived at Dunster, a small watering-place about two miles from Minehead, they rested there for the night. A little after six o'clock on the following morning, Mr. Gower rose, saying that he was not very well, and would take a walk by the sea-side. Being absent an unusually long time, his wife became uneasy, and, inquiries having been made about him, his hat was discovered on the beach at Minehead, after a long search. As it was then supposed that he must have been drowned, efforts were immediately made to recover the body, and after a few more hours' search it was found lying on the sands partly undressed. It is conjectured that Mr. Gower had intended to bathe, but that, as he was in the act of undressing, the tide came rapidly up, and the place abounding in sand-banks and being one of the most dangerous on the coast, he was carried away by the force of the current before he could make his escape.

FRANCE.

(From a Private Correspondent.)

The Prohibitionists are evidently massing their forces for the twofold purpose of offering determined resistance to any attempt that may be made to modify the taxes they levy on the nation, under pretexts worthy only of the most frivolous *Chauvinisme*; and, also, to impose, by an appearance of great strength, their wishes—or rather commands—upon the timorous members of the Government. The array of their battalions may loom grandly enough at a distance, but on coming to close quarters it would be found to be not very formidable, for the different constituents have often antagonistic interests. Like an army composed of various races of men, speaking no common tongue, and bound together by no great and truthful principle, but merely united by the hopes of plunder, the Prohibitionists' forces are doomed to fall to pieces. Under the first influence of defeat, one faction would be willing to sacrifice the rest, in the hope of being able to escape pursuit with its ill-gotten booty; and success would set them all by the ears to obtain the largest division of the spoil, like the lieutenants of "Macedonia's madman." Perhaps, and that is the more probable, investigation would reduce the Prohibitionists' forces to more modest proportions than they pretend to, like *Falstaff's* men in buckram. For there is no branch of Prohibitionist traders who, while clamouring for rigorous protection to their own manufacture, do not desire, in secret, free trade in the other departments of commerce. The ironmaster would be delighted if the unfettered introduction of foreign coal were to reduce the cost of native fuel. The manufacturer of muslins and cotton fabrics would be rejoiced to be permitted to use low-priced English twist. The machine-maker demands nothing better than the free importation of foreign metals and fuel; and manufacturers of all sorts of goods would be glad to get their machinery from abroad. And so it is, every class cries aloud to be protected, but would not object if others were submitted to the régime of free trade. Not long since a Lille manufacturer landed at Calais from England, wrapped up in a shepherd's plaid, though on a hot night, in order to pass it through the custom-house without paying duty, on the plea of its being wearing apparel for his own use, and was indignantly surprised, after having given his name, trade, and address, at being told by the officer that he must pay the entrance dues, and that he, of all men, ought not to seek to evade duties imposed for his own benefit and the special protection of native industry.

I have before remarked on the singular manoeuvres to which the prohibitionists resort, and the unworthy tactics they employ, to enlist popular prejudice on their side, and to their endeavours to revive, for mere trade purposes, national feelings of ill-will which all right-thinking men must desire should be allowed to slumber. But with these gentry whatever serves their turn or helps to maintain the delusion that their monopoly, that is to say, large profits, is essential to the prosperity and glory of France, is eagerly laid hold of. Accordingly, a fiction has just been published, in a weekly collection of novels by Alexandre Dumas and other noted writers, which is intended to portray the sufferings and misery of an ironmaster in the Haute-Marne, whose undertaking had been crushed by the competition of England and Belgium (*se trouvait écrasé par les concurrences de la Belgique et de l'Angleterre*). Over the pathetic description of these imaginary woes all the novel readers throughout France are expected to weep and to be induced by the perusal of the "sorrows of (an industrial) Werter" to rise up against perfidious England and enlist under the banners of prohibition. I am not aware that the protectionists of England engaged the services of any novel writer—save Mr. Disraeli—to advocate their cause before their final defeat, and have therefore allowed themselves to be distanced in ingenuity by their brethren on this side of the water.

In spite of their noisy efforts, the prohibitionists do not appear over sanguine of much longer maintaining their flag intact. Bit by bit they seem to anticipate it will be shredded away and they are now casting about to find an equivalent. No one can blame them for this measure of prudence; but it seems most inconsistent that gentlemen who cry out against Government interfering with them and their profits, should call upon the state to compel others to reduce their prices, as they have done recently on more than one occasion.

Paris, Thursday, Half-past Six, p.m.—What with the great heat, which has returned with redoubled vigour to us within the last two days, and the absorbing interest of the Cherbourg meeting, the Bourse opened to-day very heavily. Rightly or wrongly, speculators here will persist in seeing in the visit of the English Queen to the great military port of France, an indication of a desire to preserve peace at all hazards, and of a deference to French politics. At first the Bourse was disturbed by rumours set afloat by the advocates of M. de Lesseps's Suez canal, that the Emperor intended to give Lord Malmesbury (for I presume he would think of addressing her Majesty on such a subject) a "bit of his mind" relative to the opposition of Lord Derby's Government to the scheme. Later in the day, additional news came from Cherbourg, although what was its nature no one seemed to have the most re-

mote idea; but its effect was to restore calm, and send the Three per Centa. up from 68*l.* 20*s.*, their opening price, to 68*l.* 40*s.* I am inclined to believe, in reality, that Cherbourg news has had very little to do with the improvement, but that it proceeds from the increase in the railway receipts. The augmentation is stated to be no less than 17,000*l.* on the Western line—here Cherbourg may have exercised an influence—and 212,000*l.* on the Lyons-Mediterranean. Bank of France shares were calm at 8100*l.* with a downward tendency to 8090*l.* Discount Bank shares, 670*l.*, after payment of the 20*l.* dividend. Railway Bank, 290*l.*, and Bonnard's Bank shares fell to 71*l.* 25*s.* to rise again to 73*l.* 75*s.* Fortune has favoured the Crédit Mobilier to-day. Its shares, which opened at 615*l.*, rose rapidly to 628*l.* 75*s.* In the railway market, Austrians rose from 626*l.* 25*s.* to 628*l.* 75*s.*; Russians stood at 501*l.* 25*s.*; Victor Emanuels rose from 412*l.* 50*s.* to 415*l.*; while Lombards stood at 573*l.* 75*s.*; François-Joseph at 475*l.* 50*s.*; Romans at 470*l.*; and Saragossa at 455*l.* Among French lines, Orleans shares, which opened feebly at 1260*l.*, rose to 1270*l.*; Lyons-Mediterranean from 765*l.* to 771*l.* 25*s.*; Old Northern from 917*l.* 50*s.* to 920*l.*, and New ditto, to 785*l.*; Easterns from 647*l.* 50*s.* to 660*l.*, under the influence of large purchases; Southern, which are coming into favour with speculators, went from 512*l.* 50*s.* to 515*l.* 25*s.*; Westerns from 600*l.* to 602*l.* 50*s.*; Dauphine from 515*l.* to 517*l.* 50*s.*; New Ardennes from 470*l.* to 472*l.* 50*s.*; Geneva shares stood still at 577*l.* 50*s.* at first, but at last reached 580*l.*; and Béziers fell to 150*l.*, rising again to 195*l.* which must have left a tolerably large margin for profit to the buyer.

The exchanges are:—

On London,	25 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> c. sight,	24 <i>l.</i> 90 <i>s.</i> 90 days
Frankfort,	212 <i>l.</i>	212
Amsterdam,	do.	210 <i>l.</i>
Hamburg,	187 <i>l.</i>	186 <i>l.</i>
Berlin,	378 <i>l.</i>	370
Naples,	434 <i>l.</i>	430
Vienna,	242 <i>l.</i>	239 <i>l.</i>
St. Petersburg,	373 <i>l.</i>	370
Madrid,	517 <i>l.</i>	512 <i>l.</i>

The latest quotations of the Paris market are, for Corn per 100 kilog.:—Prime, 24*l.* 16*s.* to 25*l.*; firsts 23*l.* 53*s.* to 23*l.* 95*s.*; seconds 19*l.* 70*s.* to 23*l.* 33*s.*; thirds, 22*l.* 0*s.* to 22*l.* 50*s.* Flour, per 100 kilog., average, 34*l.* 23*s.*; in stock, 10,748 quintals of 100 kilog. each, of which 553 sold. Best Wheatens Bread, 35*s.* the kilog., equal to about 7*d.* the 4*lb.* loaf. Oats, outside Paris, and therefore exclusive of octroi duties, per 109 kilog., prime, 25*l.* 33*s.* to 25*l.* 60*s.*; first, 24*l.* to 24*l.* 33*s.*; seconds, 22*l.* to 22*l.* 53*s.* Sugars: Martinique and Guadalupe, good quality, per 100 kilog., 125*l.* to 126*l.*; beetroot, 141*l.* to 142*l.* Spirits (Montpellier), 78*l.* the hectolitre; first quality, 90 degrees, 55*l.* Colza Oil, 107*l.* 50*s.* the barrel. Soap, mottled, 90*l.* the 100 kilog.; white ditto, 117*l.* French suet, 123*l.* the 100 kilog. Cattle at Soaux on the 2nd: oxen, 1986 head, the kilog., first quality, 1*l.* 36*s.* to 1*l.* 40*s.*; heifers, 342 head; the kilog., 1*l.* 23*s.*; calves, 455; the kilog., 1*l.* 38*s.*; sheep, 10,876; the kilog., 1*l.* 46*s.*

HAVRE.—The cotton market is calm, and the sales, which rose to over 4000 bales on the 2nd, fell to 1030 on the 3rd. The prices are at a standstill, and long staple fell from 25*l.* to 40*l.* lower than was anticipated. Nothing doing in sugars in spite of the rise in beetroot. Wool was in great request, especially South American. Prices were consequently well maintained. 21 bales from La Plata sold at 135*l.* to 230*l.* the 100 kilog.; 48 bales Cordova washed, 180*l.* to 190*l.* The total sales for July were, Buenos Ayres 793 bales, 100*l.* to 235*l.* the 100 kilog.; ditto, 50 bales washed, 180*l.* to 225*l.*; ditto, 50 bales of lambkins, 70*l.* to 105*l.* Bombay, 77 bales, 120*l.* to 200*l.* Chili, 15 bales, 190*l.*; ditto, washed, 6 bales 215*l.* Australia, 13 bales damaged, 400*l.* to 500*l.*

MARSEILLES.—Wool sells easily, and at former prices; spirits are firm, the Montpellier at 73*l.* the hectolitre. Beetroot spirit has risen to 62*l.* in consequence of large sales at 60*l.*

LYONS.—From the quantity of silk sent in the counting-house, there is every reason to believe that the trade is improving, and that manufacturers are buying largely to replenish their stocks. The prices are:—raw silk, Cevennes, 94 to 96*l.* the kilog.; Romans, 63*l.*; Aubenas, 67 to 70*l.*; Organsin, best, 118 to 120*l.*; and it is remarked that the quality of the silk is far superior to what it was last year.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO CHERBOURG.

The great event of the season has this week taken place. Her Majesty has visited Cherbourg, and seen the inauguration of the great works which the French Emperor has just completed. The ships of war which were appointed to form the convoy left Spithead at an early hour on Wednesday morning; and the Osborne Royal yacht, together with the Black Eagle, bearing the Admiralty flag, and having Sir John Pakington, First Lord of the Admiralty, on board, left Osborne soon after ten o'clock, and proceeded up the Solent. At twenty minutes past twelve, the Victoria and Albert was seen from

Cowes coming down the Roads, and was immediately saluted by the yachts and other vessels lying about. Five minutes later, the Royal vessel was abreast of West Cowes Castle, and at that moment the Medina steamer, from Southampton, came alongside with a numerous party on board, who loudly cheered her Majesty as she passed. These compliments were acknowledged by the Queen from the deck of the Royal yacht. The Victoria and Albert then steamed up the Solent towards the Needles, and in the evening, about half-past six o'clock, arrived in the roadstead of Cherbourg, accompanied by the Royal Albert. A salute was immediately fired from the whole French fleet and the forts.

Some two hours previously, the Emperor and Empress had arrived at the Western Railway Station, where the officials connected with the town and port of Cherbourg, together with a great crowd of visitors and townspeople, were in waiting to receive them. The naval and land forces lined the path leading from the station to the prefecture, and the Imperial party were cheered all the way.

As soon as the Emperor heard of the arrival of her Majesty, he proceeded at once to pay his personal respects to her on board the Royal yacht; and, on his return, the illuminations (which were very general) shone forth from the ships in the harbour, from the public offices, and from most of the houses in the town.

On Thursday morning, after breakfasting with their host and hostess, the Queen, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the Ministers in attendance, landed, and visited the town, the docks, the forts, and the other naval and military works. Her Majesty was heartily received by the people. The Royal party partook of refreshments at the Prefecture in company with the Emperor and Empress; after which, the Queen returned to the harbour, and dined with the Emperor and a select company on board the Bretagne. The illuminations of the previous night were repeated after dark. The weather was magnificent, and the roadstead presented the most animated appearance. Great numbers of English were in the town, and the English and French sailors have got on together with the greatest harmony. According to the *Times* of to-day, 40,000 passports have been granted at Paris for Cherbourg. Sixty thousand strangers are said to be in the town, the ordinary population of which is under 20,000.

ASSAULTS BY NEGROES.

Two cases of assault upon ship-captains, arising each from a similar cause, were heard on Monday by Mr. Yardley at the Thames police-office. The first of these charges was against three American negroes named Adam Young, John Ray, and James Augustus Samuels, who, without provocation, had furiously attacked Captain Annis, master of the American ship *Satellite*, from Calcutta, in the immediate neighbourhood of the police-court, to which he had been summoned by eleven of his crew, all negroes, on a charge of refusing to pay them their wages earned at sea. A certificate having been put in from the United States Consul to the effect that the vessel was a foreign one, belonging to the port of Rockland in the state of Maine, Mr. Yardley came at once to the conclusion that the case was beyond his jurisdiction, and therefore dismissed the summons. Scarcely, however, had Captain Annis left the court, when he was followed and attacked by several of the blacks, who, amidst much hooting and yelling, threw him down into the middle of the road, and struck and kicked him repeatedly about the back, head, and face. The captain believed that they would finally have killed him, had not the police interfered and protected him from further violence. He then returned into the court bleeding at the nose and mouth, and greatly disfigured by the injuries he had received. When the case was brought before the magistrate on the following day, Captain Annis stated that his crew consisted entirely of negroes with the exception of two men, and that the ship of which he was master was under seizure on a bottomry bond; consequently, he could neither pay the men their wages, nor get any money until he had an order to that effect from the persons who had seized the vessel. Mr. Yardley ordered Samuels and Young to pay a fine of 5*l.* each, or be imprisoned for two months in default. As it could not be proved that Ray had joined in the attack on the captain, he was discharged. Warrants were then issued against two other men named Fraser and Sydam, both of whom had taken part in the outrage, the former being the first to strike Captain Annis as he was leaving the police-office.

The other charge was against four seamen, named Michael Ryan, Emanuel Peana, Laurence Cornelius, and Richard Crosby, the first of whom was an Irishman, while the other three were men of colour. They were all charged with assaulting Captain McNeil, master of the English ship *Henrietta*. As in the preceding case, the captain had been summoned to the Thames police-court by three of his crew for refusing to pay them their wages, and he then told the magistrate that the ship sailed from London on a whaling voyage in the South Sea, in May, 1856, and that Captain Holmes, the then master, committed suicide on the passage. The

vessel had afterwards put into St. Helena, where fifteen seamen were sentenced to three months' imprisonment and hard labour for desertion, and fifteen others were taken on board as substitutes. Finally, the ship put into the Dutch settlement of Ternat, and here the captain entered into a second agreement to pay the men monthly wages. This summons was also dismissed by Mr. Yardley, who said that, as the men had signed a written contract to share in the profits of the adventure, according to the usual custom in South Sea whaling voyages, the last agreement was null and void. Directly Captain McNeil had left the court, he was attacked by the seamen who had summoned him, in much the same way as the American captain had previously been. One of the fellows grasped him by the throat, and would probably have strangled him if the police had not come up and taken the men into custody. The magistrate sentenced Ryan to a fine of 3*l.*, or six weeks' imprisonment, and Peana 2*l.*, or a fortnight's imprisonment. The other two were fined 1*l.* each, or eight days' imprisonment.

OBITUARY.

Mr. EDWARD PEASE, sometimes styled "The Father of Railways," from the part which he took in the projection and carrying out of the Stockton and Darlington line, the earliest in the kingdom, died on Saturday evening, at his house in Darlington, at the advanced age of ninety-two.

GENERAL SIR FREDERICK ASHWORTH.—The death of Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Ashworth occurred at his residence, St. George's-place, Hyde-park-corner, on Sunday evening. The deceased General was born at Dublin in 1783.

Mr. SOYER.—We are sorry to observe in the papers of yesterday a report of the death of the renowned Alexis Soyer. This gentleman, who, according to the *Daily News*, "had suffered from an affection of the liver ever since his return from our camp in the Crimea, was at Norwood on Wednesday night, when a sudden attack of disease obliged him to return to his home at St. John's-wood. On Thursday morning he became insensible, and died about ten o'clock at night. We are informed that the portable cooking apparatus invented by him, which is being constructed at Woolwich Arsenal, was to have been tested in the presence of the military officers deputed by the Government one day next week. This, and his other plans for the reformation and organisation of the army cooking system, remain to be carried out under the superintendence of Mr. Warren, his secretary."

SUCCESS OF THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

THE great and truly civilising task of connecting the British islands and America by the electric telegraph has at length been crowned with success, after two failures. The directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company received on Thursday the following despatch, dated from Valentia, Ireland:—

"The Agamemnon has arrived at Valentia, and we are about to land the end of the cable. The Niagara is in Trinity Bay, Newfoundland. There are good signals between the ships. We reached the rendezvous on the night of the 28th, and the aplice with the Niagara cable made on board the Agamemnon the following morning. By noon on the 30th, 265 nautical miles were laid between the two ships; on the 31st, 540; on the 1st of August, 884; on the 2nd, 1256; on the 4th, 1854; on anchoring at six in the morning, in Doulos Bay, 2022. The rate of the Niagara during the whole time has been nearly the same as ours, the length of cable paid out from the two ships being generally within ten miles of each other. With the exception of yesterday (Wednesday), the weather has been very unfavourable."

The utmost enthusiasm was exhibited at Liverpool when the news reached there. The English flag at the Town Hall and Exchange, and the United States flag at the American consul's, were immediately hoisted. The cotton and produce markets were not sensibly affected; but Atlantic Telegraph shares were quoted at the Exchange at from 800*l.* to 1000*l.*

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE VICTORIA CROSS BY THE QUEEN.—Her Majesty, on Monday, presented the Victoria Cross to about a dozen officers and privates, at Southsea, near Portsmouth, as a reward for distinguished conduct in the field. A good deal of military pomp graced the scene, and large crowds of people looked on. The Queen came from Osborne to attend the ceremony, and returned after its completion. The following are the names of the recipients of the Cross:—Lieut.-Colonel E. W. D. Bell, 2nd Battalion of 23rd Regiment; Brevet Lieut.-Colonel M. D. Dixon, R.A.; Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals James Mouatt, C.B., late of the 6th Dragoons; Major Thomas Esmond, late of the 18th Foot; Major D. M. Probyn, 2nd Punjab Cavalry; Captain H. C. Elphinstone, R.E.; Captain A. S. Jones, 18th Hussars, late 9th Lancers; Lieutenant Robert Blair, 2nd Dragoon Guards; Deputy Assistant-Commissionary of Ordnance John Buckley, Honourable East India Company's Service; Colour-Sergeant Henry

McDonald, R.E.; Sergeant Henry Ramage, 2nd Dragoons; Private Joel Holmes, 84th Regiment.

THE LATE GALE.—The advices received at Lloyd's last Saturday brought a numerous list of casualties which happened during the recent heavy gale from the N.N.W. Upwards of a dozen vessels foundered in the North Sea, some with the loss, it is feared, of all hands. The Dutch and Danish coasts appear to have suffered severely, and the mail of Saturday, from the various parts, announces a serious destruction of property.

ARMOURER SERGEANTS.—The Secretary of War and the authorities at headquarters having judged it expedient to establish a more perfect system of obtaining qualified armourer sergeants, for service in regiments, battalions, and corps of the regular army and regiments of embodied militia, a Royal warrant has just been issued by the Secretary of War by which it is ordered, that all armourers intended for service in the regular army and regiments of embodied militia shall be enlisted and formed into a corps to be called "The Corps of Armourer Sergeants," which corps is to be attached to the Royal Small Arms Factory at Millbank. The men so enlisted are to be governed by various rules which are particularised in the warrant.

NEW MINIE RIFLE MUSKET.—A new species of breech-loading Minie rifle musket, an American invention, was received at Woolwich last Saturday for the inspection and approval of the select committee of the Arsenal. The calibre and weight are similar to the ordinary muskets at present in use in our service. No derangement of the barrel is required in loading, the cartridge being applied through the medium of a small piece of mechanism, resembling a trap, over the lock. The cartridge bags are of metal, nicely fitting the chamber, and plugged with india-rubber, the centre of the plug containing the percussion cap, and the charge is guaranteed by the inventor to be secured from injury when exposed to any moisture, even under water. On preparing to reload, the action of raising the small cover at the breech withdraws the empty cartridge case, which is liable to the same amount of wear as the gun itself.

ADMIRAL LORD LYONS gave a grand banquet on board the Royal Albert at Spithead, on Tuesday evening, to Marshal the Duke of Malakoff, his Lordship's guest to Cherbourg.

TRIAL OF RIFLES.—Some additional trials took place on Wednesday on the marshes near St. Mary's-creek, Chatham, for the purpose of still further testing the greatest amount of accuracy to be obtained in firing at long ranges with the Lancaster rifled musket and the Enfield rifle. The rifles used on the occasion were the Lancaster elliptical bored musket, the same as used by the men of the Royal and East India Company's Engineers, and the ordinary Enfield rifle in use by the troops of the Line and at the school of musketry, Hythe. The result confirmed the previous impressions with respect to the superiority of the Lancaster rifle.

OLD QUARTERMASTERS.—A copy has just been published, by order of Parliament, of a memorial addressed to the late Secretary of State for the War Department by certain quartermasters who were placed on half-pay previous to the date of the declaration of war with Russia. Some of the petitioners have been in the army since 1797; and they pray that the provisions of the Royal Warrant of the 17th of last December may be extended to them.

THE BILLETING OF SOLDIERS.—The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into this subject have published their report. They do not object to billeting *in toto*, but suggest various modifications, and think it ought never to be continued for a long time at one house.

PROMOTION AND RETIREMENT IN THE ARMY.—The Commissioners appointed by her Majesty, on the 12th of last April, to inquire into the effect of the system recommended in the report of the Royal Commission dated the 17th of June, 1854, and into the question of promotion and retirement in the higher ranks of the army, commencing with the rank of Major, have just reported (in a Blue-book) the result of their deliberations. The chief points in the report have been thus summarised:—"The Commissioners do not appear to think that the warrant of 1854 has been long enough in force to allow them to judge of its operation upon the promotion in the Guards. They reject the suggestion to shorten from six to five years the period of service as a field officer required to qualify for unattached pay in the case of a Major-General. They also refuse to countenance the abolition of lieutenant-colonels and the creation of a new permanent rank of Brigadier-General, with increased half-pay. To induce retirement on full pay, it is suggested that colonels and lieutenant-colonels accepting such retirement should receive 20*s.* per 17*s.* per diem, as now; and they think that, as a general rule, no colonel should be allowed to retain the command of a regiment after sixty years of age, unless reported to the Horse Guards as efficient."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, last Saturday, gave the annual fête, in honour of the Prince Consort's birthday, to the seamen of the Royal yachts, the detachment of

troops] quartered at East Cowes, the Trinity-house men and coast-guard stationed at East Cowes, and the labourers and workmen employed on the Osborne estate. Dinner was laid in marquees on the lawn for about five hundred persons, who sat down at three o'clock. Her Majesty, the Prince Consort, Prince Alfred, and the whole of the Royal family then at Osborne were present, and remained till about seven o'clock. Dancing and rural games took place, and were kept up till her Majesty's departure.

CHURCH RATES.—A church rate has been defeated at Harrogate by 44 against 41.

A LUNATIC'S LEAP.—A young man named John Howison, who for some time past has been an inmate of the lunatic asylum at Bencham, near Gateshead, has killed himself by an extraordinary leap which he took last Saturday afternoon. He was taking a walk with his keeper in Gateshead, when he suddenly started off, ran towards the High Level Bridge, and leaped over on to some grounds below belonging to the North-Eastern Railway Company. Death, of course, was instantaneous, and the body was shockingly mangled.

THE COWES REGATTA.—The race for the Prince Consort's Cup took place on Monday, when the competitors were—the Arrow (102 tons, owned by T. Chamberlayne, Esq.); the Lulworth (80 tons, owned by T. Weld, Esq.); the Extravaganza (48 tons, owned by Sir Percy Florence Shelley, Bart.). On rounding the Nab Light, the extreme eastern point of the course, the Lulworth stood first, and the Arrow second; but the former only gained the goal forty seconds before the latter. The Extravaganza was a long way behindhand. Just as the yachts were entering the Roads, the Queen and Prince Albert left East Cowes in the Fairy on their way to Portsmouth, followed by the Elfyn. They were thus enabled to witness the close of the contest.

DOGGETT'S COAT AND BADGE.—The race for this prize took place on Monday, on the river, from London Bridge to Chelsea. The victor was C. J. Turner, Rotherhithe. J. C. Young, Woolwich, kept the first place for some time, but lost it by an accident. All the rowers, however, exhibited great skill and determination.

PETTICOAT LANE.—The Lord Mayor having determined to put a stop to the obstruction in Petticoat-lane by the constant presence on the pavement of Jew dealers and thieves, a large body of police has been stationed for some days past in the thoroughfare, and the pavement has been kept quite clear.

BLINKERS, OR NO BLINKERS?—"A Country Parson" ventures, in a letter to the *Times*, to dispute Mr. Rarey's dictum with respect to blinkers on carriage-horses. He says he is sure, from experience, that horses in harness, with the free use of their eyes, would constantly become terrified at objects on the roadside; and he predicts the most alarming accidents if London cabmen abandon the use of blinkers.

COLLIERY STRIKE.—A colliery strike which has taken place in East Worcestershire occasioned so much uneasiness that the Yeomanry Cavalry were held in readiness to be despatched to the scene. No disturbances, however, have as yet taken place.

JAMAICA.—The Governor of Jamaica has authorised the appropriation of large sums of money for the purpose of introducing Chinese and other immigrants into the island.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—Mr. Robert Stephenson, the engineer, has addressed a letter to the *Austrian Gazette*, in reply to some remarks in that journal by the Chevalier de Negrelli, Mr. Stephenson's colleague, in 1846, in investigating the practicability of cutting through the Isthmus of Suez. The Chevalier criticises Mr. Stephenson's remarks in opposition to that scheme, made by him in the debate in the House of Commons on the 1st of June; and the English engineer defends his opinions. After going into several scientific details, Mr. Stephenson concludes:—"I have—indeed, I can have—no hostility to a maritime canal through the Isthmus of Suez. If I could regard such a canal as commercially advantageous, I have already shown that I should be the first to give it the advantage of my time, my money, and my experience. It was because, after elaborate investigation, and in conjunction with such men as M. Talabot, I arrived at a clear conclusion that the project was not one which deserved serious attention, that I refused to give it support. I should be delighted to see a channel like the Dardanelles or the Bosphorus penetrating the isthmus that divides the Red Sea from the Mediterranean; but I know that such a channel is impracticable—that nothing can be effected, even by the most unlimited expenditure of time, and life, and money, beyond the formation of a stagnant ditch between two almost tideless seas, unapproachable by large ships under any circumstances, and only capable of being used by small vessels when the prevalent winds permit their exit and their entrance. I believe that the project will prove abortive in itself and ruinous to its constructors; and, entertaining that view, I will no longer permit it to be said that by abstaining from expressing myself fully on the subject I am tacitly allowing capitalists to throw away their money on what my knowledge assures me to be an unwise and unremunerative speculation."

GALLANT RESCUE.—At the Kingstown regatta, on the 21st ult., a small sailing boat belonging to Mr. H. A. Hamilton, of Balbriggan, was run down by a large

fishing smack, about three hundred yards from the shore, which caused her instantly to sink. Out of the five persons on board Mr. Hamilton's boat, two succeeded in getting into the smack; another swam till picked up by a boat, while a lady's life was saved by the extraordinary exertions of Mr. Hamilton. She was precipitated into the water to a great depth by the violence of the collision, and the smack actually passed over her. Mr. Hamilton watched where she went down, and though a very bad swimmer, he dived till he reached her, and with great difficulty succeeded in raising her to the surface. He then swam with her towards the shore till a boat put off and picked them up. The lady being desirous of shewing her feelings of gratitude to the Almighty for this merciful preservation of her life, has thought that she could not do so in a more appropriate manner than by placing at the disposal of the National Life Boat Society the sum of 300*l.*, to be employed by it in stationing an additional life-boat on the Irish coast.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.—A meeting has been held at Manchester, to consider the question of the Danubian Principalities. Resolutions were carried repudiating the interference of the English Government in the affairs of other states, and declaring that the independence of Turkey is the only safeguard against the preponderance of Russia.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The Cape Parliament was prorogued by Sir George Grey on the 5th of June. The hostilities between the Free State and Mosheh, the Basuta Chief, have come to an end. It is thought probable that an alliance will take place between the Free State and the Trans-Vaal Republic. The Natal colony is quiet.

THE ALLEGED CRUELITIES AT ACOMB HOUSE LUNATIC ASYLUM.—T. S. Lutwidge, Esq., and J. T. Wilkes, Esq., two of the commissioners from the Lunacy Office, opened an investigation, on Friday week, at the Station Hotel, York, into the charges against Mr. Metcalfe, the keeper of the Acomb House "Retreat," near York. The reporters and the public were excluded, though Mr. Pemberton, who appeared for Mrs. Turner, expressed a desire for publicity. We learn (says a daily paper) that Mr. Pemberton addressed the commissioners at great length, after which Mrs. Turner herself gave evidence, and described in detail the nature of the cruelties to which she alleged she was subjected. The treatment to which she spoke consisted of bodily torture inflicted upon her at various times; confinement in small dark rooms for as long as fifteen hours, during which she was denied the offices of nature; indecent language and offensive epithets repeatedly applied to her by Mr. Metcalfe. The commissioners remarked that the lady's evidence had been given with great clearness. On Saturday, Mirandah Hale, the attendant on Mrs. Turner during her stay at Acomb House, was under examination the greater part of the day. She stoutly denied Mrs. Turner's statements as to the alleged ill-treatment, while admitting that Mr. Metcalfe pushed her down in the bedroom when he desired her to undress; but he did it gently. The further investigation was then adjourned for a week.

THE BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—This society has been holding its annual congress during the present week at Salisbury, where it has found much amusement and instruction in the many objects of antiquity which that interesting city presents.

RENUNCIATION OF INFIDELITY.—Some years ago there existed in Nottingham a society of operatives who propounded a creed of their own which involved a disavowal of belief in Christianity. Lectures were given, and a good many adherents were gained; but, in time, public discussions between the free-thinkers and various clergymen of the town took place; and the result, after a struggle of fourteen years, appears to have been four conversions to Christianity, and the dissolution of the society. The president of the society, Jonathan Barber, a framework knitter, publicly announced his secession at a meeting presided over by the vicar, the Rev J. W. Brooks. Barber said that, being ill, he found his free-thinking creed worthless in the prospect of death. Three other workmen in the room also announced their conversion. The number of converts made by the free-thinkers is not stated.

THE HARBOURBOUGH CHURCH-RATE CASE AGAIN.—It will be remembered that Mr. J. Nunneley, upon being summoned before the Harbourough magistrates recently for non-payment of church-rates, disputed the validity of the rate; notwithstanding which, the justices ordered payment, and Mr. Nunneley, being distrained upon, carried the case before the Court of Queen's Bench, where the order was quashed, and the magistrates were glad to compromise all proceedings by paying costs. At the Harbourough Petty Sessions on Tuesday, three more tradesmen were summoned for non-payment of their quota of the rate. The same objections were taken against the validity of the rate, and the magistrates upon this occasion decided that they had no jurisdiction. It was understood that the whole case would be carried by the churchwardens into the Ecclesiastical Court, and, meanwhile, summonses were taken out against another batch of tradesmen who had refused payment.

SUICIDE OF A PRISONER IN BRISTOL GAOL.—A man named Thomas Silcox, formerly the keeper of a beer-house, who was convicted at the last Bristol Quarter Sessions of receiving a quantity of stolen goods, and sentenced to

three years penal servitude, committed suicide on Tuesday by hanging himself in his cell in Bristol gaol.

THE FISHMONGERS' COMPANY.—The Prime Warden and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers entertained a numerous and distinguished company at dinner in Fishmongers' Hall. The chief address of the evening was that of Lord Palmerston; but it presented no matters of special interest.

THE CROPS.—The crops, generally, continue in good condition, and it appears highly probable that we shall have a sufficing harvest. In Ireland, the crops appear to be unusually abundant and fine. Reaping has commenced in some quarters.

YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.—The twenty-first annual exhibition of the Yorkshire Agricultural Association commenced at Northallerton on Tuesday.

REPORT OF THE LUNACY COMMISSIONERS.—The report of the Lunacy Commissioners to the Lord Chancellor has just been published in the form of a blue book of about fifty pages. This document exhibits the painful fact that private asylums are often very badly managed, and that the notorious institution at Haverfordwest is still marked by its wretched condition and by the cruelties practised on the unhappy inmates. The state of the Earlswood Asylum for idiots at Reigate is also described as being far from satisfactory. The Commissioners state "that a very large number of insane persons are taken charge of by medical men and others without any legal authority;" and they "have reason to fear that the condition of such patients, deprived as they are of all independent supervision, is far from satisfactory." On New Year's-day, 1858, 22,310 lunatics of all classes were confined (10,493 men, and 11,817 women). Of these, 15,163 were confined in asylums, 1751 in hospitals, 2625 in metropolitan, and 2647 in provincial licensed houses; 295 were found lunatic by inquisition, 633 were criminals, and 1490 were chargeable to counties or boroughs.

FIRE.—A destructive fire burst out about a quarter to nine o'clock on Monday night at the office of the *Sun* newspaper, 112, Strand. The back of the house, which was very old, was where the fire originated, and the upper story of this part was appropriated to the composing rooms. The whole of this portion was destroyed, and not a single book or document was saved: two of the floors in the front of the house were also consumed. The adjoining houses were likewise at one time threatened; but by eleven o'clock all danger was at an end. We believe that the paper is for the present being printed at the office of the *Morning Post*. The cause of the fire is not known.—The building known as "the Old Warehouse," Portland-street, Mills, Ashton-under-line, was burnt down last Saturday morning. The spontaneous combustion of a quantity of cotton waste, collected ready for delivery, is supposed to have originated the fire.—A fire occurred on Sunday morning on Islington Green, which resulted in serious injury to two of the inmates. The occupier of the house, and his wife, jumped out of window: the former was much shaken, and the latter fell so heavily that it is feared one of her legs is broken. The house was completely gutted, and a neighbouring house was partially burnt, before the flames were got under.—A very extraordinary scene took place at a fire in the High-street, Whitechapel, last Saturday night. The flames originated in a cart-house, and spread to an adjoining cheesemonger's and some other buildings. The horses were got out of the cart-house with difficulty, and the engines shortly afterwards arrived. The engine-men were immediately attacked, however, by a mob of ruffians, who would not allow any water to be thrown on the flames. They struck right and left at the firemen, one of whom was very dangerously stabbed in the leg by one of the rioters, who used a dagger for the purpose. The wounded man was taken to an adjacent public-house, where the gash was bound up, and the ruffian was seized by some of the bystanders, but was rescued by his confederates. The firemen were at length obliged to defend themselves with their belts and splinter-bars; and it was not until the police had been reinforced that the engines could be properly worked. Several of the firemen were a good deal knocked about, and, during the disturbance, some wooden palls in Commercial-street were forced down by the pressure of the mob, and several persons fell into an excavation for new houses; but none were seriously hurt.—The Bubwith Viaduct on the Selby and Market Weighton branch of the North-Eastern Railway was destroyed by fire on Tuesday morning. A loss of several thousand pounds has thus been incurred, and the traffic has been totally suspended for a time.

FUNERAL OF MR. GEORGE BARTLEY.—The remains of Mr. George Bartley, the comedian, whose death took place in London on the 22nd ult., from paralysis, were deposited on Friday week in the burial-ground attached to St. Mary's Church, Oxford, where his wife and children are also interred. The funeral was of a strictly private nature, the mourners being exclusively composed of the relatives of the deceased, with one solitary exception—that of T. P. Cooke, one of the oldest and most intimate of the late comedian's professional friends.

PERSIA.—The relations between the Persian Government and the English Minister at Teheran, which at one time seemed on the point of being broken off, have been completely re-established.

DOCK EXTENSION.—A spacious dock, chiefly intended for the accommodation of the timber trade, has been completed at the north end of the town, and was on Thursday christened by the Mersey Dock Board the "Canada Dock."

A NOBLE SAILOR.—The steamship *Gipsy Queen*, belonging to the West Hartlepool Steam Navigation Company, has arrived at Hartlepool this week, having several shipwrecked crews on board, whose vessels were lost on Sunday morning week. Among the crews were those of the brig *Black Boy*, which vessel capsized in the gale off Otterdord. At the time the vessel capsized, the master had on board his wife, sister, and child. It was with the greatest difficulty that the two ladies were got into a boat while the vessel was on her beam ends, they having been in the water some time. One of the men, George Nosster, undertook, at considerable personal risk, the charge of the child. He allowed all to get safely into the boat first, and then found that his only chance was to jump with the child into the boat. He hesitated for a better opportunity, but in the mean time the boat was driven by the fearful gale away from the wreck, which it was impossible to regain. In this distressing condition the father and mother of the child and other persons in the boat knocked about in the open sea until midnight, when they got on board a galliot, and rode out the gale. In the mean time, Nosster had taken to the foretop with his charge carefully folded under his jacket. He remained in the foretop some time, carefully adjusting a portion of his clothes round the child, and thus protecting him from the heaviest of the seas, and occasionally putting him to his breast to satisfy him, the child not being weaned. About five in the morning, Nosster lashed his charge in the rigging, and ventured down into the cabin, where he succeeded in getting some wine, with which he moistened the baby's mouth, thus keeping him alive. At daybreak, the father of the child thought he saw some one on the wreck, and at about nine on Monday morning the gallant sailor and his infant charge were rescued by a boat from the galliot, and he had the satisfaction of handing the infant to its mother alive and well.

MADE MAD BY RELIGION.—The housekeeper to Mr. Thorley, of Spring-gardens, Gainsboro', has become deranged through, it is said, religious excitement. She was connected with the Primitive, and it is supposed that the revival services recently held, at which the feelings are wrought up to the highest possible pitch of enthusiasm, have been too much for her. On Monday, she precipitated herself, at midnight, from one of the bedroom windows, injuring herself considerably. She has since been handed over to the care of her father.—*Standard Mercury*.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—The first meeting under the new act of this Board took place on Tuesday. A motion to exclude the press was negative; and, after a long and somewhat miscellaneous debate, a motion was adopted, affirming that the plans with respect to the sewage question which the Board had adopted should be reconsidered in committee, or part of them, with power to confer with engineers.

SCHOOL OF SINGING AT FLORENCE.—Madame Cecilia Boccabadati Varesi, the daughter and pupil of the celebrated Boccabadati, and the wife of Felix Varesi, the accomplished artist, has been for several years a distinguished mistress of singing and pianoforte playing; and she has now decided to open at Florence a school of *Perfectionnement Artistique*, for finishing the earlier studies. The establishment is situated in one of the best parts of Florence, favourable to the comfort of the pupils. In this establishment the pupils are sure to find the instruction they desire to obtain, whatever may be their fortune, joined to the comfort of a home.

Mrs. W. J. Fox addressed his Oldham constituents on Wednesday evening. Alluding to Cherbourg, he contrasted the present state of France with her proud position when she "gave the watchword of liberty to the nations." He feared that the Emperor "would become a nuisance to Europe," and he looked with suspicion on the transference to the Queen of the supreme power in India, as she now possesses an army not subject to Parliamentary control. It had been said that the liberties of France had been conquered in Algeria: "let them look to it that the liberties of England be not mastered in India." Mr. Fox concluded by alluding to the ignominious fall of Lord Palmerston, who had been deserted by the Liberal party because he had deserted them.

Mrs. J. B. Gough, the Tietotal lecturer, was entertained at a soirée on Wednesday evening at Manchester. In the course of the evening, it was stated that Mr. Macaulay, Q.C., Dr. Lee's counsel in the late trial for defamation, has written a letter declaring that the compromise into which he entered received the sanction of his client—a fact which the doctor had previously denied.

LORD BROUGHAM, on Wednesday, cut the first sod of the Eastern Valley Railway, Westmoreland. At the dinner which followed, his Lordship warmly acknowledged the important part played by the late Mr. Pease in the early development of the railway system, and proposed to drink to his memory in solemn silence; which was done.

INAUGURATION OF THE BROTHERTON MEMORIAL.—The statue to the memory of the late Mr. Joshua Brotherton, M.P., was publicly inaugurated on Thursday morning, in the Pool-park, Salford, in the presence of the corporations of Manchester and Salford, and a large number of spectators, among whom were many ladies. The Mayor of Salford presided, and the speech of the day was delivered by the Bishop of Manchester, who highly extolled the character and deeds of the deceased gentleman. Sir John Potter, M.P., Mr. Thornely, M.P., of Wolverhampton, and Mr. James Brotherton then briefly addressed the audience, after which the proceedings terminated.

AUSTRALIA.—The rejection of the Reform Bill at Melbourne has created great excitement.

THE CONSULAR SERVICE.—The report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the consular service and consular appointments, was issued on Thursday morning. The committee urgently recommend the establishment of such a system of consular education and promotion as may tend to prevent the employment of any but British subjects as consuls, vice-consuls, or interpreters, in Northern Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Levant; the prohibition of all consuls to engage in trade, except under certain conditions; the diminution of the present number of vice-consuls in Europe; such an organisation of the consular service as may divide its members into separate classes; and the appropriation of all fees, except in cases of unpaid consuls, to the public account, the expenses of the office being regulated and defrayed by Government.

THE LAGOON.—I pulled my broad-brimmed cap over my eyes, and listened indolently to the gurgle of the water among the bulrushes. The boatmen never shifted their position, and I could hear the murmur of their voices as they conversed with each other, and their low excited exclamation when they found a fish fast and drew it cautiously on board. A flapper which had hidden itself among the reeds dropped noiselessly from the bank, and began swimming and diving rapidly along the shore. The flapping of wings overhead made me look up, and a flock of delicate quail passed me within a stone's cast, but veered suddenly round when I raised my arm, and, uttering a low cry of alarm, took a different route to the mainland. And this was the Lagoon,—the Lagoon as it might have been a thousand years before, when homeless fugitives, flying before the hordes of Attila, found rest and refuge upon its barren islands. What was the prospect that greeted them as they looked down on the promised land from the passes of Cadore? A dreary enough spectacle it was, and is again after the lapse of a thousand years. It is in the sea, and yet not of it. The tides of the Adriatic ebb and flow through its whole extent; but the water, except in one or two of the larger channels, is not more than a foot or a couple of feet in depth, and at ebb-tide the Lagoon is a vast arena of mud. Scattered throughout it are countless compact sandbanks overgrown with coarse sea-herbs, and lined by gigantic bulrushes, haunted by the wild duck and the water-rat; intersected by canals and open spaces of water, along which, as though it were along the land, white sails speed quickly and noiselessly; tenanted by bright eyed lizards, and the scattered huts of watermen, and legions of aquatic birds, whose shrill complaint mingles with the splash and murmur of the gathering tide! Conceive one of the grandest dramas in European history enacted in a Norwegian morass or a Lincolnshire fen, and you will be able to understand the mysterious fascination of the Lagoon.—*Fraser's Magazine*.

EMBEZZLEMENT BY A BROKER'S CLERK.—Henry William Hunt, late clerk to Mr. Noel Whiting, colonial broker, 14, Mincing-lane, was brought before the Lord Mayor yesterday, charged with having, since February, 1857, embezzled various sums of money amounting to nearly 600*l.*, the property of his employers. He was remanded.

HOCUSING.—A cabman, named John Knight, was yesterday examined on remand at the Bow-street police-office, charged with "hocusing" a young woman at a disreputable house, and robbing her. He was committed for trial.

DEATH OF MR. F. P. WALESBY.—The death of Francis Pearson Walsby, Esq., B.C.L., and M.A., of Lincoln College, Oxford, barrister-at-law, and Recorder of Woodstock, is announced. He expired after a short illness at Park-crescent, Oxford, on Thursday morning. Mr. Walsby took his B.A. degree in 1827, having been called to the bar the previous year. He was formerly Fellow of Lincoln College, and from 1829 to 1834 was professor of Anglo-Saxon in the University. He had also held the office of public examiner in law and modern history. By his death, the Recordership of Woodstock, and one of the proctorships of the Chancellor's Court in the University become vacant.

IRISH PARTY OF INDEPENDENT OPPOSITION.—A general meeting of the members of the Council of the Tenant League, and of the Independent members of Parliament, will be held on the 17th instant, at the Council-rooms, in Dublin. The proposed object is to consider the course to be taken by the members of the Independent Irish Opposition party on the reassembling of Parliament.—*Morning Star*.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, August 7th.

THE CONTINENT.

The Emperor has decided that all France shall join in a *Te Deum* at the moment when he and the Empress are prostrate before the shrine of St. Anne of Aunay, on August 15th.

Madame Benoit Fould, on the occasion of the death of her husband, has given the munificent sum of 10,000*fr.* to the poor of the second arrondissement of Paris without any distinction on the ground of religious tenets.

On the meeting of the Belgian Chamber of Representatives on Thursday, two Royal decrees were read by the Minister of the Interior—one withdrawing the Government project relative to the fortifications of Antwerp, and the other pronouncing the close of the session. The Assembly separated immediately.

"A certain Count Gaddi-Ercolani," says a letter from Rome in the *Débats*, "was some time back arrested in this city, and imprisoned." Long comments were made on the subject; but it now appears that it is a religious affair, the count having been guilty of lending to some persons the Protestant translation of the Scriptures, known in Italy by the name of the *Diodati Bible*.

According to accounts from Tegernsee, of the 2nd inst., the King of Prussia has within the last few days had some symptoms of gout. His medical attendants, it is said, consider this as the sign of a favourable change.

VISIT OF HER MAJESTY TO PRUSSIA.

The Royal yacht *Victoria* and *Albert*, Captain the Hon. J. Denman, will take up her moorings off Gravesend immediately on her return from Cherbourg, and it is expected that her Majesty and the Prince Consort will embark at Gravesend next Tuesday, on a visit to the Prince and Princess of Prussia. On the order being received at Woolwich Dockyard to lay down moorings at Gravesend for the Royal yacht during the present week, it was considered that her Majesty would disembark at Gravesend on returning from Cherbourg; but this statement is founded in error. A numerous party of shipwrights, riggers, &c., have left Woolwich for Gravesend, to make the necessary arrangements for mooring the vessel, and preparing for the embarkation.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

A despatch, dated "Valencia, Friday morning," says:—"Electric communication is maintained perfectly. In answer to the signals from our coils, they returned us, this morning, at 8.40, accurately to Greenwich time, as directed, the prearranged landing signal. The complete instruments which were on board the *Niagara* for speaking cannot possibly be adjusted for some days."

CHELSEA NEW BRIDGE will be opened free to foot passengers for the first time to-morrow (Sunday.)

MURDER OF TWO CHILDREN BY THEIR MOTHER.—Two children have been drowned by their mother (a married woman) in a small bay on the coast of Somersetshire. The eldest child was a girl, two years and a half old; the other was a boy, about a twelvemonth old. The mother afterwards surrendered herself at the police-office at Flax Burton, eight miles from Bristol. She confessed the crime, but did not state her motive. According to report, the murderess is an intemperate and passionate woman, but her husband, a painter, is a very respectable person.

ACTION FOR LIBEL.—An action was brought on Thursday at the Guildford Assizes, by a Mr. Eastwood, a dealer in antiquities, against the proprietors of the *Athenaeum*, for an alleged libel. Mr. Eastwood, last year, purchased a number of ancient relics which had been dug up at Shadwell; and the *Athenaeum* had published a report of some proceedings at a meeting of the British Archaeological Association, at which relics of the kind in question were denounced as forgeries, and the particular relics owned by Mr. Eastwood were apparently glanced at. Mr. Justice Wille, however, was of opinion that no case of libel had been made out, the assertion having been made in general terms, and the report being a *bona fide* account of what had passed at a public meeting. The jury therefore returned a verdict for the defendants.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF A MISSIONARY AT AMSTERDAM.—An attempt was made on Sunday to assassinate the Rev. Mr. Schwartz, a Free Church Missionary to the Jews at Amsterdam, when about to preach from the pulpit. The would-be assassin (who was at once arrested) is a Jew youth, actuated by religious zeal. Mr. Schwartz was seriously stabbed.

MONTVIDEO.—A mixed commission has been appointed to settle the Anglo-French claims on the Montevideo Government for damages sustained during the late siege of that port.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a pressure of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1858.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

CHERBOURG AND ITS FÊTES.

The fêtes of Cherbourg belong to the week, the works of Cherbourg belong scarcely more to the present generation than to the past, and more to the past than to the future. The inauguration of the great naval port and arsenal has created a vast alarm founded on a minimum of fact; but the true bearing of the works which are now completed, christened, and proclaimed to the world, has been overlooked, not much to the credit of this country, the sagacity of its politicians, or the courage of its public. On the other hand, there is something ludicrous in the attempt of the French papers, and of some amongst our own journals, to make light of Cherbourg, its fêtes demonstration, and its gigantic works. Make light of Chatham and Plymouth combined. Cherbourg is at least a great fact, and it is not to be talked out of sight. Does it follow that we are to stand in fear of a fact, or that because the Government of France is henceforward to be in the known position of a great engine, the engine must therefore be used against us?

The power that has been created at Cherbourg is great and self-supporting. The town, which lies at the bottom of the bay that bears the name, has before it extensive and commodious roads, which have been enclosed by a great sea-wall or breakwater, almost in a straight line, about two miles and a half in length, from one end to the other. On the centre of this breakwater is a fort, at each end a fort, with a fort also on the mainland opposite each end, and in the western entrance, which is somewhat broader, a fort. In the mid-channel there is a fort at each side of the inner roads. The whole of the immense arsenal which lies to the left of the town is fortified, one of the forts which commands the lesser roads being a part of the arsenal fortification. Above the town, to the west, is a semicircular chain of five forts; behind the town, the citadel commanding the whole space. Every foot of anchorage, therefore, is covered by the fire of artillery, and no ship can seek safety from the storm of nature without braving the storm of art. The docks have an immense constructive power. A navy could be built and anchored at Cherbourg; which gives to France a Plymouth, and realises the idea of the first Napoleon in supplying France with the means of striking a blow at any enemy seaward. Unquestionably the policy of the structure is one of aggression, although we must remember that aggression is frequently no more than the best form of self-defence.

The ulterior effect of this great naval construction is to render France more independent than she has been of naval alliances. She will not be compelled so much to depend upon a combination of Russia, for example, to counterbalance England, or vice versa. Should she be in alliance with the United States, she might almost brave the European Powers, England included, even at sea. Should any Napoleon of the future thunder forth Berlin decrees, he would not find England alone riding the wave and able to defy him. But far short of any such conflict, the simple fact that France possesses a navy as well as an army, will strengthen the Emperor for holding the balance of power by sea as well as land, and fit him the better

for the duties of an umpire. A policy may be based upon the construction, therefore, which is not necessarily aggressive, though it undoubtedly tends to the aggrandizement of France.

With regard to the demonstration of which so much has been made and which will have such imposing effect, the policy is perhaps not less domestic than foreign. It is generally understood that the greater number of officers in the army are not politically Bonapartists; they are anxious for the aggrandizement of the army. Now, nothing could be a better counterbalancing of a purely land force than a more powerful sea force than France has yet possessed. On the other hand, hitherto the fleet has not been very ardent in its Bonapartism, in a great degree probably because the fleet has not been so much cultivated as the army. It must now see in Napoleon its greatest friend, its new creator—a sovereign who rivals Louis the Fourteenth in his ideas, with additional capacity for realising those ideas.

The fêtes will have their effect beyond the French frontier; they exhibit France as a naval power in close alliance with Great Britain, a compact which almost amounts to dictation in the seas of Europe. And the frankness with which Cherbourg is thrown open to the English visitors, the sailors of our fleet, the volunteer sailors of the Royal Yacht Squadron, is strong evidence that the French Emperor not only entertains no hostile ideas towards this country, but waives no small part of the jealousy which has animated France, and seeks to make no mystery with the islanders. It is a kind of frankness which implies the fear of no misconception; and the man who fears not misconception seldom deserves it.

There is, however, a totally independent point of view from which both the demonstrations and the works at Cherbourg may be regarded. The great constructions which have been completed have not been executed in a year, nor in ten years. But their beginning goes back to times now distant. There is nothing really new, therefore, in the breakwater or the arsenal of Cherbourg; but the idea of Louis the Fourteenth—of the first Napoleon—has been finished and announced. Cherbourg is a crowning acquirement for the naval power of France; it places that empire somewhat in advance of other powers that have sought to become naval. Russia, for example, whose navy was half rotten, has been building vigorously. France is able to keep pace with her. Austria is increasing her fleet, but can run no race against Cherbourg. The United States is building, though not very actively; but it possesses considerable building power; our own docks have not been idle, and if the Queen is unaccompanied by a great squadron to Cherbourg, it is probable that a muster of the Channel fleet, at no distant date, will reassure any mistrustful people in this country. Cherbourg, in fact, may be taken as the new point of departure from which those states which aim at being naval powers in Europe or America must take their standard for future strength. Hence this is a consideration important as much in France as in Austria, in Europe as in America. Cherbourg marks a date from which the naval estimates of all those states must stand at a high figure, without any possibility of reduction. From this week we must see a constant naval development, cost what it may.

We cannot, of course, define the consequences. No man in our day will attempt to predicate the impossible and tell us what may or may not happen as a sequel to the labours and festivals of Cherbourg. Unquestionably the existence of great power is in itself an incentive to use the power. The present Emperor must see his strongest interest in peace; but how different have been the three Napoleons! And the fourth may be a still more marked variety, to say nothing of the fact that we know not who his Ministers are to be. We are speaking, however, less of political possibilities than of naval possibilities, and they may lie as much on the side of this country as of any foreign state. We shall see what practical science can or cannot do; this very week, the English and Americans, in co-operation, have laid down the electric telegraph, and have brought together the two countries within the distance of a few minutes. Steam has not yet developed all that it can do, by sea or land, either in locomotion, or as an engine of construction. Within this week we have seen an observer of photography explaining how a cannon-ball passing from the gun so rapidly that we cannot see it, may actually stamp its portrait on the photograph. If

the most powerful existing arsenal has been constructed at Cherbourg, it is more than probable that latent powers only await the discovery of the most active and energetic pursuers of practical science. Lord Dunsford assures us that he has a secret that at a moment's notice could paralyse a Plymouth, a Sveaborg, or a Cherbourg. No arsenal ever yet built can forge the living sailors, and perhaps at the present moment no navy could excel our own in practice, whether in the handling of arms or of artillery. Our American cousins can always run a level race with us, but at present, from greater recent practice, we are heading them; and it may be said, as the result of practical observation lately, that no sea captains can put in their ships, place them, and work them like the English, or concentrate their artillery with such deadly weight upon a certain point. The Duke of Malakoff, who is to be the guest of Lord Lyons in the naval part of the festival, could himself bear testimony to some rather interesting reviews in which the comparative power with England has been displayed. The gun-boat tribe has not yet been brought to its perfection; in short, the naval tactics of the past have now to a certain extent been made common property, and any state which intends to maintain the standard in the race for naval supremacy must strike out new inventions, new arts, new labours, and we have yet to see, probably, the very principle of naval construction and naval tactics for the immediate future. The friendly review of Cherbourg which the English will share with their French hosts may itself so stimulate the imagination and invention as to suggest the first ideas for making a new standard from this new point of departure. But the generous frankness which is now shown in the Cherbourg fêtes will of course disarm any jealousy that might be felt at the emulous energy of the British.

THE CHURCH IN REAL DANGER.

THE worst enemy of the Established Church is the Established Church itself. No more formidable weapons of offence are forged against her than the weapons which she herself furnishes. It is all very well for Churchmen to raise the cry of Dissent, Romanism and Atheism being in combination to undermine the Church of England edifice, to sever the connexion between Church and State, and to deprive the established clergy of the respect and affection of the people. There is no need for Dissenter, Roman Catholic, or No-religionists to put themselves in the least out of the way to effect the very worst purpose the very worst enemy can meditate towards the Established Church. The abuses and scandals that are so prevalent and coming so rapidly into the light of day are doing the work of destruction quickly and surely. Take the newest scandal brought before the House of Lords by Lord St. Leonards a few days before the closing of Parliament. His learned Lordship had previously presented a petition from the inhabitants of Camberwell, which complained that the parish had been left to the care of a couple of ill-paid curates for nine years, because the living was under sequestration for the debts of the vicar. The following appears to be an outline of this disreputable, but by no means uncommon, case:—About ten years ago the living was bought by the Rev. Mr. Williams for 15,000*l.*, subject to the large unpaid debts of the former vicar. The purchase-money, 15,000*l.*, by some oversight to which we have not the clue, was not forthcoming, consequently there remained a charge on the living, which is worth about 2300*l.*, of a no less sum than 30,000*l.* Very soon after the new vicar was inducted into the living the revenues were sequestered, as it is phrased, for the accumulated debts; the vicar became *non est*, and for about nine years the Christian inhabitants of one of the wealthiest parishes in London have been obliged to suffer the humiliation of belonging to a parish where such doings are possible and where the religious services cannot be performed by their proper clergyman. We do not think it any hardship that the parish is relieved of such a vicar, but we do think it monstrous that the parishioners have no summary means at command to put an end to such a crying scandal. As long as the accumulated liabilities are undischarged the inhabitants of Camberwell cannot expect to see their clergyman, but must be content to put up with the ghostly consolation which a couple of curates at 2*l.* weekly apiece can afford to give them for the money. It is calculated that in about twenty years the income of the living will have

paid off the debts. Now one would suppose that this sequestration was a matter not suffered to travel out of the parish, and kept, for decency sake, as private as possible. But it appears that the Bishop of Winchester, in whose diocese the living of Camberwell is situated, is cognizant of all the facts, has lent his sanction to the sequestration, and has appointed curates to do the duty of the clerical fugitive. Whatever odium attaches to the spiritual condition of Camberwell and the disgraceful arrangements must, we humbly conceive, be shared between the bishop and the incumbent. However the practice of sequestration may have grown into a custom, the principle of sequestration reflects indelible disgrace on the Church of England, and warrants the strongest measures of its worst enemies. But this resort to sequestration by jolly clericals who have overrun the constable, who have spent the revenues of their rectories, possibly in "riotous living" and mundane debaucheries, appears to be very common and on the increase. In the list we believe will be found St. Olave's, Southwark, Newington, Wandsworth, Hackney, Tormarton, Melton Mowbray, and others. Now as to these livings are attached large incomes, the more shame to the occupants that they have been unable to make the expenses of their style of living square with their receipts.

To our thinking, it is almost criminal to sequester the receipts of a benefice, and apply them to the payment of private debts. The revenue is presumed to be wanted to pay a clergyman for duties attached to the "cure of souls," not to be squandered in high living or debauchery. The statement of Lord St. Leonards attracted attention from lay lords, but very little from right reverend prelates. Although it was known the discussion was fixed for a particular day, not a single bishop was on the bench. But Lord St. Leonards is not the man to let a matter of such vital importance drop. The matter was again brought under the notice of the House, and then the Archbishop of Canterbury, finding it was impossible to blink the scandal, intimated that the bishops had taken the question into consideration, and that it was expected they would frame some bill to meet such cases, but it was impossible to bring in the bill that session. And from what has transpired, there is reason to believe that the bishops will be disposed to deal tenderly indeed with their bankrupt and self-denying brethren—that they will decline to strike at the root of the evil by turning the clergyman out of a benefice the duties of which he is unable to discharge, but they will make some further provision out of the revenues of the living for additional curates. The bishops have ere now been advised to "set their house in order." Let them take care they do not give cause for renewing that cry by their refusal to do what justice, honesty, and the interests of religion require to be done in this matter.

Comment on the circumstances we have referred to is superfluous. The Camberwell affair tells its own story, will shortly work an effectual cure, and that, too, in a direction little dreamt of by the dozing bench of political bishops.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE.—MORE ABOUT WEEDON.

WHEN we look to the calendars of crime which daily come before our courts of justice, we are struck, in the multitude of cases, with the ingenuity of the human mind and the energy of disposition brought into action to satisfy some mere temporary gratification where the prize is totally disproportionate to the acuteness of intellect displayed or the risk to be run; for example, the ready wit with which the habitual vigilance of a shopkeeper is eluded to obtain an article of jewellery, the ingenuity of the swindler to get 10*l.* on false pretences, the art and science required to forge a bank-note, the dexterity displayed by the *smasher* to pass a counterfeit shilling,—each act exposing the offender to a term of penal servitude for that which might be honestly earned with less trouble, or by a day's or even an hour's labour. But what a contrast do such instances afford to our great public defalcations, where hundreds and thousands upon thousands of pounds are misappropriated with the greatest impunity and in the most bungling and barefaced manner without the ends of justice being satisfied, with little risk of detection, and, indeed, if discovered, with an almost certainty of escape. For instance, a late secretary to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who lives abroad with what he may have of the 30,000*l.* for which he could render no account

—the Admiralty Registrar, with 50,000*l.*—the Treasury Receiver of fees on intestable property—the late accountant to the Council-office—and last, but not least, the immortalised Elliot, of Weedon, who roams at large on the other side of the Atlantic, enjoying, with an opera-dancer, as reported, his reappings in this country, the amount of which will perhaps never be ascertained, and who adds open effrontery to speculation by calling on the Government to remit him his pay while taking his pleasure excursion with an undefined leave of absence which he has granted to himself. It is stated that Elliot has actually written to the War-office authorities requesting that his pay, while absent, may be sent to him, as it is his intention, when his health has experienced a sufficient benefit by the change of air and scenery, to resume his official duties at Weedon. We are led by such effrontery to ask ourselves, Is this the language and comportment of a defaulter who knows that the ministers of justice are on his track? is it the hardihood of a man who feels safety in the very act which ought to bind him hand and foot, and commit him to the hulks? or is it the confidence inspired by conscious innocence?

As yet we are but feeling our way in the dark with this extraordinary case, the like of which there may be many still smouldering under the heap of official secrecy, or buried in the impenetrable mystifications of Blue-books and other books, for there are queer rumours, "gentle as the breeze, but dreadful as the storm," meandering through certain quarters, until they have reached ears less confined, *that all has not been right*, and that matters will be exhumed referring to millions, the ghost of which will appal even the Great official himself. We shall wait patiently for the more open sound of what is at present only whispered; but as regards Weedon, we hope we shall soon have added to the evidence taken before the committee of the House of Commons on public contracts such a report from the Royal Commission as will thoroughly explain the working of the system of accounts, both *cash and store*, at that place, which, with a staff of director, superintendent, storekeeper, inspectors, foremen, and some fifty or sixty clerks, has not yet shown a debtor and creditor account of what has been received and issued.

Let us here ask a few pertinent questions.

When Mr. Elliot absconded, is it true that officials, holding such important posts at headquarters in the management of the public business as to justify their being in the receipt of very large salaries, were sent to Weedon for several weeks? How was it they could be spared from their regular duties? Who conducted the business during their absence, or was it allowed to take its chance and go into arrear? If not, was any one else paid for doing their work during their absence, or did officers with lower pay discharge the higher duties? Did they discover at Weedon that duplicate orders for the issues of the same stores had been made from headquarters to Mr. Elliot? Did such duplicate warrants for issues afford the means to Mr. Elliot of giving false certificates (had he felt disposed to do so) of the quantities received, on which payment of public money was subsequently made at headquarters in London? Were they the same parties who were connected with the payment of the money on Mr. Elliot's certificates who went down to inquire into his proceedings at Weedon? When at Weedon, did they work from sunrise to midnight? What did they do at Weedon during the time they were there? Do the vouchers from which Mr. Elliot's defective store accounts are now being posted up bear evidence of having been all cut out of the same book? Do such vouchers bear the signatures of inspecting officers for stores said to have been received by Mr. Elliot, and do those signatures, which purport to have been written by the same party, appear to be in the same or in totally different handwritings? When Mr. Elliot returned in 1854 from the duties he had discharged in Canada, and when there was difficulty felt in allotting to him a situation suitable to his rank, did he not tell Mr. Monsell, who was then at the head of the office, that he was willing to go on half-pay, and did not Mr. Monsell say that his services were too valuable to be spared? Was not Mr. Elliot at work for some time at headquarters? Was it not after this that he was appointed to conduct the business at Weedon? Had the parties who patronised Mr. Elliot ever patronised those who, on his becoming a defaulter, went down to investigate his proceedings? What report have they made of the

information they collected at Weedon, or of the duties they discharged there? Who are they and what are their names? These are all questions we feel must deeply concern the interest of the public, and in which the public will take an interest and refuse to be satisfied unless they are clearly, minutely, and fully answered, for we are convinced that a system of secret intimidation prevails by which the mouths of those who could speak are closed. If any doubt exists in the minds of our readers as to the possibility of such a fact, we will refer them to a parliamentary paper (No. 424) called for by Mr. Macartney, the member for Antrim, which shows the names, appointment, age, date of appointment, and salary of every person in the War-office, where it will be seen that men who have grown grey in the public service, and who for periods varying from twenty to forty years have discharged important duties, have been passed over by youths not so long in the world as they have been in the service of their country! What an inducement to youth to be *meritorious*!—what a salutary warning to the veteran against *disobedience*!?

LADY BULWER LYTTON'S CASE AND THE LUNACY LAWS.

CONSIDERABLE attention has lately been drawn to the Lunacy Laws, in consequence of the occurrence of two or three cases of more than usual interest. Much may, no doubt, be said against the lax administration of the Lunacy Board, and much too against the occasional acts of barbarity, to the commission of which there is so strong a temptation, when the keeper, of frail patience and indifferent self-command, feels the necessity of controlling an obstinate and furious lunatic. We can scarcely conceive any circumstances in which the temper and judgment of even a cool and self-possessed person would be more severely tried. We are not therefore prepared to reprobate the declamatory denunciations of a portion of the daily press against both the existing laws, and the individuals whose names have come before the public in connexion with their administration. Violence will do no good either with lunatics or sane men; and most assuredly the exaggerations and misrepresentations of facts which characterised the publicity given to one of these cases are likely to be most prejudicial to the interests of truth and the attainment of the end in view, which, as we understand it, appears to be a thorough revision of the system. If the alleged facts upon which an amendment of the law be demanded be proved false, great injury will be done to the efforts of those who are conscientiously and seriously working for a reform of all obvious abuses.

The first, and in some respects the most remarkable of these cases, is that of Lady Bulwer Lytton, concerning which the most extraordinary statements have been promulgated. We have been informed that she was the victim of a foul plot, that she was "kidnapped," certified to be insane by two "obscure apothecaries," rudely handled by two policemen, and hurried away to a "notorious madhouse." Very portentous would these assertions be if they were only true! It is the absence of this important particular that constitutes the step from the sublime to the ridiculous. There would, indeed, be a peremptory necessity for a reform of the system if these assertions had been founded in fact, for who would be safe? Even the promulgator of those remarkable hallucinations might be deemed insane, or, at least, oscillating on the brink of that horrible condition which would justify two medical certificates in his behalf, and a merciful conveyance to a shady retreat where he might learn to temper the violence of his passions, and recover the right use of his faculties. It appears, however, from facts that have come to light, that the lady was not "kidnapped," having come to town by her own free will, unsolicited, in haste, and accompanied by two female friends, that she was not examined by two "obscure apothecaries," but by two eminent practitioners, Mr. Hale Thomson, consulting surgeon of the Westminster Hospital, and Mr. Ross, a well-known writer and practitioner, and editor of one of the medical journals; that she was not touched by two policemen as was alleged, and that she was not hurried away to a "notorious madhouse," but taken to the private residence of Mr. Hill, the benevolent originator of the principle of non-restraint in the treatment of lunatics, from whom and whose family she received the kindest and most considerate attention. So much for this fabrication of mis-statements. We have now recited with brevity the

facts of this case, so far as it is necessary to advert to them in reply to the exaggerated statements that have been published.

Into the private history of either Sir E. Lytton, or Lady Lytton, we have no desire to enter. But it must be recollected that public notice has been attracted to domestic differences, not by Sir Edward Lytton, but by Lady Lytton herself. Indeed, some of the indefinable eccentricities of Lady Lytton, for instance her extraordinary and unfeminine exhibition at the Hertford election, must have been a sore infliction on the sensibility of a high-minded English gentleman, and appears to us to warrant something closely approaching to a belief in an unhealthy condition of intellect.

In setting right the public mind upon this painful case, we do not desire, by any means, to oppose a searching investigation into the mode in which the lunacy laws are administered. The last report of the visiting commissioners proves that there have been shameful delinquencies on the part of the managers of certain asylums, and that the Commissioners themselves have neglected to discharge their duty. Had they exercised their authority with less lenity the cruelties of a Metcalf never could have been perpetrated, and the protracted mismanagement at Haverfordwest and Ealswood House would have been impossible. In our judgment, what is chiefly wanted is, first, a more rigorous and frequent inspection, which can be effected only by increasing the number of commissioners or other officers appointed for such a purpose, and getting rid of the two venerable gentlemen who now do the Chancery business; and, secondly, a more resolute determination, on the part of the Board, to see its own orders faithfully executed. More energy, and less red tape.

THE ELECTRIC COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

THE unexpected fulfilment of the laying down the electric wire between this country and America has excited some of the most lively feelings of our nature. Every class of the community feels its vast importance, and hopes of every kind are stimulated by it. The two disappointments incurred in the first attempts have but added a zest to the satisfaction with which this important result has been received. It is, indeed, a fact to be proud of, and the indomitable promoters deserve the thanks of the nation; and they will certainly receive a substantial acknowledgment in the honourable profits that will accrue to them in working this grand application of science to commercial purposes.

In a political and social point of view, the suggestions of the advantage of rapid communication, indeed, in the complete destruction of space as regards the transmission of ideas, are too numerous, and in the present early state of the invention, too crude and too crowded to be detailed. The crossing such an immense ocean as the Atlantic, and the constructing, by a thin wire through it, a solid connexion between the great continents, are such conquests of physical difficulties, and of apparent impossibilities, that the mind finds itself, like Columbus and his followers, entering upon a new world. The imagination will trace results that are not exactly logical; but the practical man will perceive that the electric telegraph thus shortening and annihilating such an immense space, will produce effects far beyond those gained by the shorter electric lines. It must in some degree supersede the post; rumour will be quite put to silence, and conjecture will form a much smaller portion of the speculator's business. Every circumstance of consequence in the political and commercial world will be instantaneously communicated, and the action on such intelligence will be equally rapid. Perhaps, however, the most advantageous of the results of the successful fulfilment of the project is that it is possible to lay down and communicate through two thousand miles of wire. This fact being proved, the system must become universal, and every colony and every place of importance will have its electric lines. Such a bringing together of communities clearly proves that science is appointed to carry on the great work of civilisation for providential purposes. Very pretty writing might be indulged in, by contrasting how at the same time the brazen mouths sent forth volleys of the warrior's thunder, and the waters rushed into the great excavation at Cherbourg, the peaceful and comparatively fragile wire was gliding along in the deep waters to unite the two great Anglo-

Saxon families. Much moralising, also, might a political Jacques or a literary Touchstone utter upon this momentous fact; but even the genius of a Shakspeare could not narrate, much less exhaust, the results of the successful voyage of the Agamemnon and the Niagara. Let us hail the electric line as a fresh bond between us and our American brethren!

THE PAST SESSION.

At the meeting of Parliament on the 3rd of December, 1857, for the purpose of passing a Bill of Indemnity to the Directors of the Bank of England, the then Premier's following was some four hundred strong. Lord Palmerston had appealed to the country upon the question of his Chinese policy. He had signally triumphed, and seemed to stand upon the topmost pinnacle of popular favour. He had triumphed in that way most dear to the wishes of a popular statesman—he had unseated his most troublesome political opponents, the representatives of the Peel and Manchester parties. On the 4th of February the Administration, to all outside appearance, commanded a host as true, numerous, and bold as ever. The hurricane which had torn through the commercial interests of the country in the preceding December, and had been stayed by the suspension of the Bank Charter Act only when Lombard-street quaked with fear, had blown over. A state of comparative ease had supervened, and so far there were no breakers ahead of the Administration. Although Lucknow had been relieved and many triumphs achieved by our arms in India, there seemed so little chance of immediate pacification there that the aristocracy of all political shades had fair excuse for pursuing their views upon the East India Company's patronage. As leader of the raid, it was clear that Lord Palmerston would command the countenance of the high court party and of "the upper ten thousand." The majority of the Indian Directors had been made safe; the passage of an Annexation Bill was looked upon as a certainty; and the position of so hyper-aristocratic an Administration upon the back of the public camel was, to all appearance, far too secure to be agreeable or advantageous to that long-suffering animal. But during the adjournment which succeeded the passage of the Indemnity Bill, a cloud arose which burst upon the vanishing glories of the Palmerstonian majority. The first violent shock to the Palmerstonian prestige was given by the return to the Opposition benches of the Manchester party, vindictive with rage at their temporary humiliation, and burning to revenge it. The attempted assassination of the French Emperor by a band of conspirators who unquestionably had enjoyed the advantage of asylum in Great Britain during the progress of their design, succeeding, as it did, a long series of attacks upon the French Government and institutions by a portion of the English press, naturally drew an exchange of compliments, after their fashion, from the Imperialist party and their organs. A bitter *mitrailleuse*, conducive, perhaps, to the sale of newspapers, but far less so to the permanence of pacific relations, or the advancement of French liberty, was going on between the advanced posts on either side, when our session opened definitively on the 4th of February last.

The first business of both Houses was to congratulate the Sovereign upon the recent marriage of her daughter, and the next the arrangement of the Parliamentary campaign, with the announcement of their programmes and the muster of their forces by the leaders of her Majesty's Government, and her Majesty's Opposition respectively.

On the first night of the session, Lord Derby, who had evidently no conception of the wholesale leak-eating in store for him, threw down the gage of Opposition in the House of Lords. He challenged Ministers to take steps to afford security for the lives of foreign princes against the machinations of foreign assassins resident among us. He censured the War Department for their dilatory remittances of troops to India. He urged that every available man of the regular army should be sent out to the East, and that our defence at home should be entrusted to the militia, whom he would embody throughout England. He revived, also, the Chinese war grievance, and derided the very idea of negotiating at Peking.

The answers of the Cabinet were of course cut and dry. The Premier gave notice that he would bring in a bill to amend the law in relation to conspiracy to commit murder. Lord Panmure declared that his department, which includes Weedon, we presume, was perfection itself, and informed the house of the steps he had taken to raise the 100th Regiment in Canada. They were of course full of hope and uncertainty about India, but Mr. Vernon Smith would introduce a measure to enable the Company to raise loans, and Sir George Grey, by way of sauce piquante, promised a bill to reform the Corporation of London. Lord John Russell took an early opportunity of introducing his Oaths Bill. Sir John Pakington moved in educational matters, and Mr. Ayrton announced his unfortunately abortive intentions about the equalisation of poor rates; and all the

crocheteers of Parliament were intent upon developing and submitting their legislative projects to the House, still unconscious of the white squall which was blowing up. But it is clear that about this time the grenades of Orsini had carried unusual perturbation into the councils of Napoleon III. The French Government had already permitted the appearance in the *Moniteur* of absurdly bombastic addresses to the Emperor, in which the services of certain regiments were proffered to his escaped Majesty for the invasion of this country. Understanding as we do the dependence of every French dynasty upon the bayonet, the occasional presence in command, unavoidable under a French army system, of a few mere fire-eating "roughs," and the extreme jealousy of the vast and petted Imperial Guard which pervades the line regiments, we can readily comprehend that the rejection or suppression of an effusion, however absurd, from one of the latter, might have been construed into an insult, not to that particular corps alone, but to a brigade or even to an entire army. England, we thought, could well afford to let the idle puff blow by and to compassionate the position of a ruler the source and mainstay of whose power was so manifested. But when from the laboratory of the *Trois Frères Napoléoniens* there issued the ponderous admonition of Persigny to our civilised civic councils, and the unguarded assassination despatch of Walewski, followed as they were by diplomatic rallies yet more plain spoken, we were not without apprehension on our neighbours' account, whom a change of dynasty might perchance involve in a reign of terror, that premonitory madness had seized the Imperial family.

The propriety of an alteration in the law of conspiracy was so patent to every well-principled Englishman who could call himself a friend of order, and irrespectively of all sentiment for or against the French Emperor, that there was no indisposition on the part of the country at large to proceed with the Conspiracy to Murder Bill, which passed its first reading by a large majority, including many gentlemen now in office. But it was otherwise ordained. The anti-French section of the English press were making political capital by fanning the flames of international hostility with their eternal columns of cheap patriotism; two parties who had long sighed for office saw their account in a timely fusion. Personal foes of the once petted Premier swelled the ranks of the most singular coalition that ever attained power. When Lord Palmerston moved the second reading of his Conspiracy to Murder Bill, the conspiracy to dethrone Lord Palmerston defeated him by a majority of 254 against 215 votes.

On Sunday, the 21st of February, Lord Derby was summoned to Buckingham Palace. He immediately accepted office, and proceeded manfully to face the difficulties of his inheritance. These were due in part to the blunders and conceit of his predecessors, and in part to the conduct of his own party in opposition, seeing that the Derbyites in the House of Commons could not number more than 160 or 180.

This was in the opinion of the Whig Tadpoles both indecent and unconstitutional. But they had omitted from their estimate the powerful Manchester and Peace party, whose bellicose discontent with the pacific tendencies of Lord Palmerston had given the *coup de grace* to the outgoing ministry. It was passing strange, indeed, that the Apostles of peace and economy, and the leader of the Opposition in the "Arrow debate" of 1857, should be found in 1858 jointly censuring the Ministry for the heinous crimes of deliberation and reluctance to take office. And now, the industrious member for Birmingham is the buttress of Lord Derby's Administration, while the little band of pre-Raphaelite politicians who follow his more natural ally, Mr. Gladstone, are still in chastening exile. To a man of the Premier's autocratic temperament, indebtedness to the Manchester school may, as his rivals say, be gall and wormwood indeed. But all we have to do with is the account of the public in the matter, and from this point of view we can imagine no alliance more pregnant with disappointment to the country than would be that of the Peelites to-day with so much of the old Tory as is left in my Lord Derby. The secret of Mr. Bright's power is this. He can at any moment, with his ready oratory, his large capacity, the wide-spread influence of his immediate partisans, and the political mechanism at his command, rouse the Commons of this country to the demand of a large and comprehensive measure of reform. The patriarch of progress, Lord John Russell, dare go no further in the direction of large reform than such an addition to the electoral rolls as would in no way increase the popular power or disturb the aristocratic supremacy. Mr. Bright has inscribed upon his standard that any reform bill to be worth a moment's thought or the smallest effort to carry it, must at least double the representation of the metropolitan boroughs and of all the great cities of the United Kingdom. These are reasons why Mr. John Bright is to be feared by every aristocratic Administration; and these, again, why the alliance of Mr. John Bright and his party was peculiarly a matter of importance to Lord Derby when he told up his supporters before accepting office.

Deprived, as we very properly are, of all access to the great Government Red-taperies, we are obviously in no position to define the complications which had indirectly led to Lord Malmesbury's instalment, and which

it became his immediate duty to unravel and to straighten out. We apprehend, however, that the *amende* for the *Moniteur* addresses and the Walewski despatch having been already offered by the French Government, it was no matter of extreme difficulty for an acute and gentlemanlike person, honoured with the personal acquaintance of his Imperial Majesty, to dispel the clouds that had partly discharged themselves of their electricity. The rampant heroes who demanded with all the fervour and delicacy of the tap-room the reparation of our national wrongs by advertisement in the *Moniteur*, were perhaps disappointed, but the public at large admitted that the Palmerston Cabinet, whose short-coming in the matter was more traceable to a supercilious sense of safety than to any want of patriotism, could not have been more successful in the brief negotiations that ensued than were their successors. They could not more eagerly, to all appearance, have advanced the State prosecutions of Bernard and the bookseller Truelove, or more gracefully have abandoned them when the subsiding excitement of the French Government permitted a hearing to reason and common sense, and possibly in some sort loosened the screw that had been put upon our home department. The whole of the proceedings in the matter of these trials sufficiently showed that neither in the original appeal to the law of the land, nor in the relinquishment of its pursuit, was there anything that could fairly be called "travelling" to the passions of either native enthusiasts or foreign despots.

In dealing with the Cagliari affair, which to all appearance he must have found in a state of neglect, little creditable to the Foreign Office, there can be no two opinions as to Lord Malmesbury's ability and tact. Lord Malmesbury's success, although his judiciously tardy rate of progress and anxiety for the peace of Europe must have been supremely unpalatable to such slapdash belligerents as Messrs. Milner Gibson and others, the rapidity with which, under his management, the total illegality of the capture was discovered, contrasted favourably with the thoroughly shameless indifference of his department to the sufferings and fate of Watt and Park in Lord Clarendon's time. The indemnity procured for the engineers was sufficient, and the distinction conferred upon Mr. Barber as an acknowledgment of great services rendered by a member of a service for which the Tite Barnacle class have small affection, showed judicious diagnosis of public feeling, and, what is better, was done in time.

The courage displayed by the Cabinet in advance of public opinion—by which they were afterwards fully justified—in dealing with the very serious American difficulty, has entitled them to the warmest commendation, and will undoubtedly be received by the enlightened portion of the United States people as an earnest of more sound political relations than Lord Palmerston, even with the assistance of his renowned out-door attaché, Mr. Wilkoff, could contrive to maintain for long together.

On the 11th of February, Lord Grey had presented a dignified and temperate petition or statement of their case by the East India Company, on which occasion it is worth notice that Lord Derby deprecated as suicidal all legislation for India until after the suppression of the revolt. On the 18th, however, Lord Palmerston obtained leave of the House of Commons by a majority of 145 to introduce his India Bill No. 1. In conformity with the then views of the present Premier, Sir E. L. Bulwer and other gentlemen of the present Cabinet also deprecated any change; but the coalition Cabinet lost no time on their instalment in office in administering to the effects of their predecessors. They plunged, without loss of time or reference to the above-recorded opinion of their chief, into legislation for India. A fancy scheme of Lord Ellenborough's for the incorporation of the vestry system of election with the main provisions of Lord Palmerston's measure, was submitted to the House and the public as Bill No. 2. The attempt to curry favour was so transparent, and the mechanism provided seemed such an unworkmanlike bungle, that the Bill No. 2 was knocked on the head in a very summary manner, and withdrawn against the wish of its noble author on the 30th of April. The two great political parties who were equally anxious to effect the abolition of the India Company at all hazards were glad to adopt a suggestion of Lord John Russell's to work out the necessary scheme for the future government of India by resolutions of the House. At length, when the House were thought to be thoroughly sick and tired of the question, when its minutest ramifications had been investigated over and over again, and when every silent member had been well probed, and every loquacious one was pledged head over ears, the Bill No. 3 was ferreted out by Lord Stanley from the pigeon-holes of the defunct Administration, and, fitted up with a few alterations, was introduced, of course, as an invention of the present one. This act, after being well riddled during its passage through both Houses, received the Royal assent on the 2nd of August. It transfers, of course, to the Crown and the aristocracy the supremacy in Hindostan hitherto possessed by the East India Company. Lord Stanley, fortunately for the middle class, from whose ranks the Indian services have been hitherto recruited, has, on this Indian patronage question, been in opposition to the Premier and other in-

fluential members of the Cabinet. He already has his reward in the approval of his country; and generations yet unborn may thank a Minister who is, comparatively speaking, *in statu pupillari*, for his pertinacity in thwarting the designs of his order upon the whole of the East Indian appointments. The eye-teeth of the whole transfer of India question were drawn almost at the eleventh hour by the House of Commons, with the assistance of Lord Stanley, and generations unborn will own indebtedness to the young President of the India Board for having so boldly and successfully vindicated the principle of open competition.

The Oude despatch *contretemps*, which led to the retirement of Lord Ellenborough, demands, as one of the most singular events of the session, a few remarks at our hands. That eccentric nobleman would seem to have been moved by an excessive anxiety to obtain the resignation of the Governor-General of India, and on the arrival of the post on the 12th of April, fondly dreamed he had him on the hip. By that mail, a copy of a proclamation was received, wherein the Governor-General had announced, to whom it might concern, his intention of entry or re-entry—for it was never clearly decided which was purposed—into the fee-simple, or the *suzeraineté* of Oude. Lord Ellenborough sat down to his desk, and, before the week was out, had drafted, fair-copied, imposed upon the Secret Committee, and sent off to India a long homily upon the annexation of Oude, the severity of Clemency Canning, and the sad inferiority of the Governor-General's wisdom to that of the precedents he had violated. The paper in question was moved for in the House of Lords. The noble President and Lord Derby at first proposed to return only portions of it. But its full contents having somehow oozed out at the clubs, it became necessary to hazard its publication in extenso. It was therefore printed and submitted to the House without excision of those paragraphs from whose publication Lord Derby had apprehended inconvenience if not detriment to the public service. Those paragraphs contained an utter condemnation of our previous policy with respect to Oude, and the general tenor of the despatch was not such as could promote friendly relations between the Viceroy of India and the Cabinet at home. It was the unanimous opinion of the public, without reference to Lord Canning's policy, that Lord Ellenborough's continuance in office was not only very inexpedient, but also very detrimental to the public service. His colleagues were indisposed to stand or fall by him. He was consigned, a political *Joan*, to the uncomical world, and eulogistic speeches were made over his ministerial obsequies.

It can be no news to the reader that Lord Derby's Cabinet, speaking generally, have proved no exception to the rule in conformity with which each new Administration follows up and takes credit for the successes resulting during their own term of office from the policy of the last. They have of course gotten into, and scrambled out of, some minor scrapes, and have committed several major sins of omission and commission. They have not dared to assail the monster abuse of the War-office, though they have been bold and resolute with the more timorous East India Company.

In removing the last civil disability from our Hebrew fellow-citizens they have wisely carried out the public will. The political compromise by which this has been brought about has neither broken up the Administration nor the foundations of the Constitution. Although certain quidnuncs profess despair of England's permanence after so rude an attack upon the time-honoured bulwarks of her institutions as is, they say, involved in the independent action of the two houses, we confess to as slight alarm upon that head as the most sagacious of our contemporaries. The admission of the metropolitan member, Baron Rothschild, to his seat in Parliament has been a nine days' wonder; and for ourselves we are not without hope that a larger infusion of the most successful of financiers may give some of that fresh force to Parliament of which some old school grumblers pretend it stands in such sore need.

The New Columbia Bill of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton was a *coup d'état* of portent dire to that old vested interest the Hudson's Bay Company. It was rendered necessary, by the reported influx of gold-seekers from California, that an organised government should have a footing in our north-western possession of New Caledonia, and the promptitude displayed by the Cabinet, without prejudice to the vested interest alluded to, may possibly prevent a serious amount of anarchy and even bloodshed.

We have long ago expressed our opinions upon the extension of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, which legalises the transport of voters. It was, perhaps, with justice styled by Lord Stanley of Alderley the Corrupt Practices Promotion Bill, and by Colonel Thompson the Legalised Bribery Act. It is notorious that immense sums were illegally spent at the recent election in the conveyance of voters, and that indemnities were exchanged between candidates. This our rulers have thought well for the future to legalise, but so wide a door does it open for the administration of bribes of the numerous outlying voters of the home counties in particular, that we may live to see our contested elections as costly as in the "good old days." The class which furnishes county candidates will then

perhaps, and not till then, believe that some mechanism is devisable which shall take the poll to the voter instead of the voter to the poll.

By the Metropolitan Local Management Amendment Act an amount of real power has been bestowed upon the Metropolitan Board of Works to which their antecedents hardly entitle them. The fortuitous concentration of the Thames nuisance under the very nose of Parliament lent wings to the passage of this measure without sound or sufficient check upon the Board's powers. They are entrusted with the scourge of taxation to an extent of about 6,000,000*l.*—or 3,000,000*l.* in excess of the estimates furnished for main intercepting drainage alone, and houseowners and ratepayers of the metropolis are, beyond all this, at the mercy of their propensities for streets, parks, and Heaven knows what other public works besides, to an unlimited extent, and for an apparently unlimited time. According to the Premier himself, who, to all appearance, has been a rather unimportant member of his own Cabinet, the 6,000,000*l.* worth of drainage works now impending must necessarily be regarded, to a great extent, in the character of a gigantic experiment. We are afraid we must on this head quite agree with his Lordship, but here ends our opposition to the Metropolitan Board. We have cordially resisted their imposition upon the metropolis; but it behoves us henceforth, while we endeavour to direct their energies into the straight course of common sense, to encourage and loyally assist them in the performance of public duties, which, after a while, cannot fail to be excessively onerous to even the most vestry-minded of men.

The Property Qualification Abolition Bill has at the same time abolished a sham of tremendous magnitude and respectable antiquity. As we before said of this measure, it is a satisfactory drive of the Reform wedge by the Conservative hammer. Having, we hope, none of that illiberality which seeks to establish the divine right of particular classes, orders, and families to originate all improvements, and having been sorely tried by the defection from the path of progress of those who have for many years been maintained by a confiding public in the sole enjoyment of the reform patents, we can only conclude our brief review of the more prominent *res geste* of the late session with a not altogether vain repetition of the good old saw, *MEASURES, NOT MEN.*

Upon the whole, we think that the cause of Liberal progress has lost nothing during the present session.

BALLOT STATISTICS.—The Ballot Society have issued an "Analysis of the Division on the Ballot, June 8th, 1858." The ayes were 197, eight more than in the preceding year; noes, 296; pairs, 144; absent friends, 16; absent opponents, 56; Liberals absent, 32; absent Conservatives, 8. The number for the Ballot, including pairs and tellers, was 221. The number against, 318. The number of members of the present House favourable to the Ballot is 247. In the Parliament elected in 1847, the Ballot was brought yearly before the House of Commons by Mr. Henry Berkeley, the numbers voting being as follows:—1848, ayes, 86; noes, 81; 1849, ayes, 85; noes, 136; 1850, ayes, 121; noes, 176; 1851, ayes, 87; noes, 50; 1852, ayes, 145; noes, 246. Shortly after the general election of 1852, the Ballot Society was established. The result of their labours is an increase in the number of Mr. Berkeley's supporters, on each division in the last and present Parliament. The following are among the numbers:—For 1854, ayes, 156; noes, 196; 1857, ayes, 219; noes, 237; 1858, ayes, 222; noes, 319. This gratifying result has arisen from the labours of the Society, and the personal exertions gratuitously given of members of the executive committee.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—The Royal Academicians, we are happy to announce, have made one more step in the direction of common sense—though the step is but a small one, and taken under the direct pressure of the most imperious logic. They have made such an alteration in their laws as gets rid of the chance that an associate's place in their body (of which, our readers know, there are not too many when they are all filled up) may remain vacant for twelve or fourteen months, according to the period of the year at which a vacancy in the higher rank of the body may happen to accrue. The election to the Associateship is henceforth to take place in the month of February; so that it will follow immediately on the election which elevates a previous member of the body to the Academician's seat. The familiar figure of the empty chair is banished from the Academy: let us hope that the other familiar figure of the professor who makes no profession may soon follow it.—*Art Journal.*

TWO MONKS ARRESTED FOR BEGGING AT LIVERPOOL.—James Gannon, and Lewis Corey, two monks, who said they came from Drogheda, and were going to a convent at Lorretto, in Pennsylvania, where charged at Liverpool, on Monday, with begging in Upper Pitt-street. They went into a shop and asked for money for a person in distress. On Gannon was found 7*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*, and a watch, and 18*s.* 5*d.* on Corey. They had no papers from any Roman Catholic ecclesiastic, and they said they had lost their property while on their way from Drogheda to Liverpool. They were remanded.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

ACTINOLOGIA BRITANNICA.

Actinologia Britannica. A History of the British Sea-Anemones and Madreporæ; with Coloured Figures of all the Species. By Philip Henry Gosse, F.R.S. Parts I.—III. Van Voorst.

The Story of a Boulder; or, the Gleanings from the Notebook of a Field Geologist. By Archibald Geikie, of the Geological Survey of Great Britain. Illustrated with Woodcuts. Edinburgh: T. Constable and Co.

A VISIT to the sea-shore is no longer a mere idler's holiday, without other pursuit or object than a stroll up one parade and down another, a rush to the news-room, or, at best, a sail out to sea, or a row in an open boat to catch a breeze or an appetite for lunch. The morning need not now be wasted at an open window, with telescope in hand, in the vain endeavour to scan and criticise any lovely form that ventures into the deep within the radius of your view. The old, well-thumbed novels, too, are at a discount, and the circulating libraries themselves are deserted when, wind and weather permitting, Paterfamilias and the young members of his household are off across the sands on to some distant rock-pool to hunt up the wonders of the shore. And broadcast are these wonders about and around you at every step, under every piece of tangled sea-weed, attached to every piece of floating wood, or buried in the sand and shingles beneath your feet.

What a revolution has been brought about in a few years by a few scientific experiments; for it was only in 1850 that Mr. Warrington, of Apothecaries' Hall, succeeded in establishing the true balance of animal and vegetable life by the introduction of the scavenger, in the shape of the water-snail, into the mimic rock-pool which he had set up in a narrow, dingy, back street of a crowded city, where to this day it still flourishes, the reward of untiring skill and perseverance. But that first attempt was not made with the denizens of the sea. Sea water could not then be had with the facility we can now procure it in inland towns, and this first water-vivarium was simply a large twelve-gallon receiver, filled to about two-thirds with river water and some clean washed sand and gravel, with some fragments of rock-work so placed as to afford the fish shelter from the sun's rays. A plant of *Valisneria spiralis* and a couple of gold fish were then introduced, and all progressed well for a time, till the decayed leaves of the *Valisneria* and confervoid growth rendered the water turbid, and so the fish sickened. Recourse was had to the natural scavengers of ponds and ditches, and a few limnea stagnalis were added, and the decaying and confervoid growth being the natural food of all water-snails, the mischief was speedily overcome, and all again became prosperous.

Emboldened by his success with the fresh-water vivarium, Mr. Warrington determined to ascertain the component parts of sea water, in the hope that chemistry might furnish as good a substitute for sea water as it had long since done in the shape of galenicals for the natural mineral waters of the Continent. The result was, that to prepare ten gallons of artificial sea water there should be 7½ oz. of sulphate of magnesia, 2½ oz. of lime, 43½ oz. of chloride of sodium, 6 oz. of magnesium, 1½ oz. of potassium, 21 grains of bromide of magnesium, and 21 grains of carbonate of lime. Artificial sea water prepared according to this formula cannot be distinguished from pure sea water; and, moreover, fish and sea-anemones, crustacea and molluscs breed and thrive in the one as well as the other. Any apothecary will make up these salts, and by these simple means marine animals and plants may be kept in perfect health, even where sea water itself is not obtainable.

About the same period that Mr. Warrington was engaged with these experiments, Mr. Gosse was pursuing others of a similar kind with no less success, and his pleasant book, *A Naturalist's Rambles on the Devonshire Coast*, led the van to the host of publications, some good, some bad, some indifferent, which have since appeared on the subject. Then came Mr. Mitchell's vivarium, in the gardens of the Zoological Society in the Regent's Park, and the ant-eater and the hippopotamus were both forgotten for a season. Mr. Gosse was the

purveyor, and during his management, certainly, it must be admitted, that that exhibition reached its zenith, though even now, in its decadency, it is well worthy of a visit. Mr. Gosse seized upon the water vivary as his empire, as Albert Smith had done on Mont Blanc, and from his rapid pen appeared, in quick succession, *The Aquarium: an Unveiling of the Wonders of the Deep Sea; A Manual of Marine Zoology for the British Isles; Tenby: a Sea-side Holiday*, and several works of less pretension.

To these we have now to add that which we announce at the head of this article, which is issued on the first of each alternate month, each number consisting of thirty-two pages of letter-press, and an accurately coloured group of sea-anemones and madreporæ. The book is beautifully got up, as indeed are all the works on natural history which issue from the same establishment.

Prior to Mr. Warrington's and Mr. Gosse's experiments, which resulted in the introduction of the marine vivarium into our drawing-rooms and studies, Dr. Johnson's *History of British Zoophytes* was the great authority on the subject. Indeed, notwithstanding the more popular works by Mr. Gosse, Mr. Lewes, Mr. Kingsley, Mr. Landsborough, Mr. Tugwell, Mr. Sowerby, Mr. Woods, and others, if we wish to go scientifically into the history of British zoophytes, Dr. Johnson's book is still indispensable.

In his second edition (says Mr. Gosse) he has enumerated thirty-six species of sea-anemones and corals as belonging to our fauna, of which six are pretty certainly either false species or falsely attributed to our shores. The last ten years have raised the number of described British species to about seventy; and though it is more than probable that an equal proportion of these must be cancelled by careful criticism, yet a larger number will still remain, whose characters have to be searched up from the pages of periodicals or other works not specially devoted to the subject. Moreover, those who have most studied these animals will justify me in asserting that, even of those species which have long been known, there is not one which does not require to be recharacterised—not from books, but from personal examination—and whose history does not need to be entirely rewritten.

Such being our author's views, he has been collecting his materials for several years, which furnish him at the present moment with an amount of matter, both pictorial and literary, not only derived from his own individual efforts, but from those of scientific friends and correspondents, in so great an abundance, that he feels that the time is come when they should be communicated to the world. The volume will probably not exceed three hundred and eighty-four pages, or twelve parts, illustrated by carefully-finished drawings of every species, taken, for the most part, from living specimens which have become denizens of the marine vivarium.

The author's style is too well known to need further remark than that in the present publication the more scientific descriptions are relieved by pleasant and agreeable anecdotes illustrative of the manners and customs of these wonderful animal-flowers of the ocean, which cannot fail to render it as welcome a guest in the drawing-room as in the study of the more scientific observer. Mr. Gosse separates our sea-anemones into two great families, the *Matridiadae*, with variously branched and fringed tentacles, and the *Sagartiadae*, with broad base, simple smooth tentacles, and the power of emitting missile cords, which they use for the purpose of disabling their prey. Our author gives the following reason for adopting this name:—

The genus *Sagartia* was published by me in a memoir read before the Linnean Society, March 20th, 1855. I then included in it *Dianthus*, as well as the species to which I now confine it. The character on which I mainly relied in constituting it, appears to me, on maturer consideration, to mark a group of higher value than that of a genus, and I have accordingly used it to characterise a family. Hence it became necessary to make a fresh diagnosis of the genus, which, though large, appears a very natural one. The name I have chosen alludes to the peculiar mode of disabling their prey by means of missile cords, which is possessed pre-eminently by the species of this group, recalling to my mind a graphic passage in the writings of the Father of History. "In the army of Xerxes," he says, "there was a certain race called Sagartians. The mode of fighting practised by these men was this:—When they engaged an enemy, they threw out a rope with a noose at the end. Whatever any one caught, whether horse or man, he dragged towards himself, and those that were entangled in the coils were speedily put to death."

One of the most beautiful of this lasso-throwing family is the *Sagartia Venusta*, the orange-disked anemone, once so plentiful at Lidstep, St. Margaret's Island, and under Tenby Head; but,

Alas! it is no more. When I revisited Tenby in

1856, I found that these caves and almost every accessible part of the neighbouring coast were pretty well denuded of the lovely animal-flowers which, in 1854, had blossomed there as in a parterre. I fear that the hammers and chisels of amateur naturalists have been the desolating agents; and my friends tell me, not without a semi-earnest reproachfulness, that I am myself not guiltless of bringing about the consummation. If the visitors were gainers to the same amount as the rocks were losers, there would be less cause for regret; but owing to difficulty and unskillfulness combined, probably half a dozen anemones are destroyed for one that goes into the aquarium.

But there are other wonders of the deep besides sea-anemones and sea-plants; the latter of themselves a new pleasure to the horticulturist, when attached specimens are introduced into tanks filled with real or artificial sea water, and instructions for the growth of which are to be met with in various works which treat of the management of the marine vivarium. There are boulders and sea-pebbles, which are not less interesting to those who delight in contemplating the wonders of the shore, or in investigating the revolutions which mark the periods of the natural transformations of the beautiful "green earth" which we inhabit. Mr. Geikie has added to our stores a little, beautifully got-up volume upon Field Geology, which is not less pleasant reading in its way, on the still life of the coast, than Mr. Kingsley's delightful *Gleanings*, with its vivid pictures, on the living wonders of the sea-shore. We quite agree in the remark that—

It cannot be too widely known, or too often pressed on the attention, especially of the young, that a true acquaintance with science, so delightful to its possessors, is not to be acquired at second-hand. Text-books and manuals are valuable only so far as they supplement and direct our own observations. A man whose knowledge of Nature is derived solely from these sources, differs as much from one who betakes himself to Nature herself as a dusty, desiccated mummy does from a living man. You have the same bones and sinews in both; but in the one they are hard and dry, wholly incapable of action, in the other are instinct with freshness and life. He who would know what physical science really is, must go out into the fields and learn it for himself; and whatever branch he may choose, he will not be long in discovering that a forenoon intelligently spent there must be deemed of far more worth than days and weeks passed among books. He sees the objects of his study with his own eyes, and not through "the spectacles of books;" facts come home to him with a vividness and reality they never can possess in the closet: the free, buoyant air brightens his spirits and invigorates his mind, and he returns again to his desk with a store of new health, and pleasure, and knowledge.

Now that everybody is running down to the coast, led on as by a kind of natural instinct, and doctors are sending invalids to the sea for the sake of imbibing ozone of Nature's own manipulation, it is pleasant to provide oneself with the means of outdoor rational recreation and enjoyment, and it is to writers like Mr. Geikie, whose works

Breathe a soul into the silent walls

of rocks and downs which form the boundary of the sea, that we would call the attention of convalescents particularly. A geologist requires but few implements:—

He need not burden himself with accoutrements. A hammer, pretty stout in its dimensions, with a round, blunt face, and a flat, sharp tail, a note-book, and a good pocket-lens, are all he needs to begin with.

Mr. Geikie's is a nice, easy-flowing style, and in his hands even a dry boulder is invested with interest:—

We can easily believe, merely from looking at it as it lies on its clayey bed, that a long time must have elapsed between the time of its formation as part of a sandstone bed and the periods of its transportation and striation by an iceberg. The sand of which it is formed must have been washed down by currents, and other sediment would settle down over it. It would take some time to acquire its present hardness and solidity, while in long, subsequent times, after being broken up and well rounded by breaker or current action, it may have lain on some old coast-line for centuries before it was finally frozen into an ice-floe, and so freighted to a distance. But the stone, with all its stories of the olden time, can tell us nothing of this intervening period. It leads us from a dreary, frozen sea at once into a land of tropical luxuriance, and so, if we desire to know anything of the missing portion of the chronology, we must seek it elsewhere.

It is just this inductive study of natural history which is so delightful. In Nature's page there are neither hard names to scare us away, nor dry and dull descriptions to send us to sleep. If she interests us, she places the object itself in our hands, and then we shall soon learn to find even pleasure in mastering these hard names and perusing these

dry descriptions; but there is nothing like a ramble on the coast with net and can, or across the downs, hammer in hand, to enlist our best sympathies in the pursuit of those new pages of natural science—the geology and the zoology of the deep.

MEMOIR AND LETTERS OF THE LATE THOMAS SEDDON, ARTIST.

Memoir and Letters of the Late Thomas Seddon, Artist.
By his Brother, James Nisbet and Co.

THOMAS SEDDON was born in 1821, of a family long connected with, and now, we believe, very eminent in the trade of cabinet working. He was taken into his father's employ after leaving school, and the dryness of mere business being found utterly uncongenial to him, he was sent in 1841 to Paris to study ornamental art. He returned after a twelvemonth an unsettled character. He hated work religiously, at good natural instincts got the upper hand, and, until 1848, he was the industrious art-designer for the factory, studying literature and art by night. In 1850, he was at great pains to establish a school for the instruction of workmen in drawing. This was hardly successful, and while preparing for an exposition of his pupils' work, he contracted severe rheumatic fever, which had an important bearing upon his future career. Upon his recovery in 1851, when he was in his thirtieth year, it was found that his continuous services could be dispensed with at the place of business, and he set up as a professional artist.

At the end of 1853 he landed at Alexandria, and between Egypt and Palestine spent one year in the East. Fragments of his letters and journals during that period make up the Memoir before us; and though they possess few points of interest not common to those of other travellers, and are deficient where we most looked for excellence, there are still some nice "bits" of word-painting and some pleasant little travelling experiences among them.

The finer quality of our artist's nature was brought out strongly on one sad occasion. He had accidentally met in the Desert with a young Englishman, who was near death, and in order to soothe his last weeks of suffering, took up his abode with him in the true spirit of the good Samaritan. He encamped beside him with Holman Hunt, in full view of the Pyramids, of which he began a sunset view, and never left him until he had closed his eyes in peace. There are several passages in the journal which show that, though a religious man at heart, Seddon was neither ascetic nor fanatic. There are signs of both humour and geniality in the following:—

To-day my boy's mother came to me, and asked me to write a paper to prevent her husband's beating her. In vain I represented that it was a very delicate thing to interfere in; that, in fact, the beating was a very good thing, and would make her the better; and, finally, that I could not write in Arabic, and that nobody in the village could write English. She said that English would do just as well; so, as it was no use insisting, she brought me some paper, and I wrote, "I hereby order Abdallah Ebu Kateen not to beat El biat esma Miriam biat El Zobeid, his wife, under pain of my heavy displeasure; and if he persists, I shall send the Howager Hunt to settle him. (Signed) THOMAS SEDDON." The lady was delighted, and blessed me, and knelt down and kissed my hand; and her son and she called me all the grand names in the world.

After the death of the traveller, Seddon took possession of his quarters—a tomb at the Pyramids—while Mr. Hunt lodged in Cairo. He stopped a month in his "oven," and after a fortnight at Cairo started with his companion, Hunt, for the Holy Land on the 10th of May. At Danietta, her Majesty's consul, a Syrian, entertained the painters:—

After dinner (says the diary) we began to smoke. The first pipes were six feet long, with amber mouth-pieces; and every ten minutes a set with longer stems and richer mouth-pieces were introduced, till, after examining a whole arsenal of guns and pistols and exterminating the Russians several times, the pipes had become eighteen feet long, with amber tops as large as hen's eggs, wreathed in diamonds; and as nothing short of a small palm-tree could come next, we took our leave.

They arrived on the 3rd of June at Jerusalem, by way of Joppa, and Seddon soon pitched his tent upon Acladama, in full view of the Holy City, looking over the King's gardens, up the valley of Jehoshaphat.

Here Seddon lived for more than four months, and really and truly devoted himself to painting the picture of Jerusalem now placed in the national collection. On June the 30th, when only three weeks had passed over his head, he describes his existence as follows:—

The perfect monotony of my daily life furnishes no materials at all for letter-writing. I never see a European except on Sundays, unless Hunt or some one looks in, perhaps for five minutes, during their morning or evening walk or ride, to shake hands and tell me that the report they gave me last week of a great defeat of the Russians is completely false. I get up before sunrise, breakfast and paint till eleven, then read, darn, dine, or sleep till two; then paint till six; then I have to return, put up my things, and go out for a walk, and just as I go out every one else is obliged to go in, for the gun fires at sunset—seven o'clock—and the gates are shut a quarter of an hour afterwards.

Of the view from his plateau he says:—

The hills are of a light grey limestone, lying in strata, so that the hill-sides form a succession of terraces naturally. At present the colour varies singularly. Whenever the light shines directly on them the hills look white, with lines of yellow running along them from the dry, parched herbage; but when the sun is high, so that the sides of the rocky ledges are in shadow, the hill is of a glorious purple, mixed with the golden and brown tints of the herbage. The white rock is also very susceptible of colour from the rays of the morning or evening sun, and the little earth that is visible, being reddish. The Mount of Olives every evening is of a wonderfully beautiful rather red purple. The slopes of the Mount of Olives, opposite the temple, and the sides of Mount Zion, are covered with the flat stone tablets of the modern Jewish graves. At a little distance it seems as if the whole hill-side were covered with a flock of sheep. My tent is pitched in the midst of Acladama. I am surrounded by the older sepulchres of the ancient Jews—large chambers hewn out of the solid rock in the face of the perpendicular side of the valley of Hinnom.

With the exception of a week's compulsory absence, from illness, and a three days' trip to Hebron and Bethlehem, Seddon painted at Acladama until the 19th of October. He had stuck to his easel to the exclusion of all else. We were surprised to find that he had not even reached the Dead Sea, though you may almost look into it from the "purple brows of Olivet." But his heart—and here is the secret of men's strength and weakness too—had been locked up all the while at Dinan, and to Dinan he repaired, as soon as he could reasonably excuse himself for leaving Palestine. He lost no time, for though he tarried a day in Paris to do commissions and buy some colours, he was in Dinan on the 4th of November, and from Dinan he wrote thus to his brother a week after:—

Indeed I must appear very absurd and changeable, but I am not so. To feel a life's happiness hanging on the result of my poor hands' work, with the thousand difficulties, with illness and with the fear of it, to work on constantly, without seeing a soul—for at Jerusalem I never saw a Christian soul except on Sundays—is enough to make one anxious. Hunt could not understand my not sacrificing everything to art, and conceived a very mean opinion of me, when, after fruitlessly urging me to stay and entirely complete my picture, I told him that I would toss all my pictures into the fire rather than stay a moment after the time I had fixed.

Yes, the secret of the unfinished pictures, the unvisited Dead Sea, and the disappointed Hunt, was solved at Dinan, where he went to paint foregrounds but was soon engaged to be married.

In January, 1855, he removed to London, took an exhibition studio in Berners-street, and got Mr. Ruskin there in a propitious mood, and became a fashionable artist. Duchesses and great Lords went to his handsome rooms, which were prettily arranged. So did the Honourable Arthur Gordon. Seddon was a man of business, too, and to an extent, we apprehend, which ought to be most shocking to your true P.R.B., for when Mr. Gordon wanted "the small dromedary," which Seddon was obliged to say was sold, he nevertheless offered to paint him a duplicate "with an alteration in the man." Oh! tell it not in Gath—a duplicate! The campaign was very successful, and the artist was married at Paris on the 30th of June. His exhibition of 1856 was not so productive as the first, and he determined to leave wife and child and revisit the East. It was a right and truly business-like step. He had made his mark as a painter of Eastern subjects, and while he chose so to continue, it was probable he would be valued by a public who might not receive him in another groove. So wife and child were left, and he set out again for Jerusalem on the 12th of October, never to return. Cairo was reached on the 23rd, and a few days after we find, in a letter to Hunt, still at Jerusalem, the following ingenious confessional criticism upon his last Eastern work: a confession we can fully appreciate:—

In this second visit, though the zest of novelty is gone, yet all strikes me with deeper interest than before. I find that my impressions of atmospheric effects had lost the wonderful delicacy, and glory of colour at the

same time, of the reality. The greater amount of vapour in the air at this time of the year gives skies and distances of the utmost softness, while half-an-hour after sunset, the black, black outline of the trees stood against a sky of flame below, going into the most tender violet, and a little to the south the white shining light of the moon glittered on the full-toned violet sky.

So Seddon found out, we may suppose, on his second journey, that while he dreamed from month to month, poor soul, of intensely sharpened sense and feeling on his isolated plateau of Acladama and in his tomb-cell under the shadow of the Pyramid, these had been, in fact and in truth, getting weaker and weaker from day to day. He became conscious for the first time, when he returned to the East, how false had been the heretofore so welcome testimonies of his friends, to the wondrous truth and beauty of his work. Poor Seddon had glimpses of one of those rarest and greatest of men's discoveries—his own shortcomings; but it was written in the book that he was not to work out or profit by it. The shadow of the hand of death was on him when the passage just quoted was written. That was on the 3rd of November, and in a week the disease broke out. He was missed from his accustomed place in church, and the Rev. Mr. Lieder rode down after service. He moved him in a state of extreme prostration to his own house, where, in spite of all that medical skill and Christian kindness could do, he sank peacefully and holily on the 23rd, in his thirty-sixth year.

It might be by some esteemed more generous to the memory of Thomas Seddon, as well as to the surviving biographer, pardonably blinded by affection, that the present volume should be passed over in silence, than that we should take exception to its publication. But some allowance must be made for the fretfulness of the reviewer, who, hoping for a kernel within the memoirs before us, discovered, after diligent perusal, nothing but a dry husk. It was well known during Mr. Seddon's lifetime that he was backed to be excellent, and, in course of time, eminent, by an influential and talented clique—well known, also, that a feeling and well-written, though extravagant, eulogy had been pronounced upon him by the gifted author of "Modern Painters" at a posthumous exhibition of his performances. A sum of nearly 600*l.* had been raised by public subscription for the purchase of his beloved chef-d'œuvre, the "Jerusalem," now hanging in Marlborough House. Men knew that he had tracked the Nile, painted the Pyramids on the spot, and had camped, with Holman Hunt for friend and fellow-traveller, in Palestine. One hoped to find, if not in the Memoir, at least in the Letters, some traces of the poet-painter's mind, and of its progress during the approximation and after the fusion of religious and artistic devotion, which is the vaunted blazon of the art-sect of Seddon's adoption. One looked, at least, for some interesting references to the pre-Raphaelite Gaius of the disciple who sat so long at his feet beside the great fount of inspiration. The affectionate remarks of the editor, again, who, in his preface, lent yet farther stimulus to curiosity, still added to our disappointment, when, after careful perusal of the Memoir, we found the well-spring of our hopes an utter mirage.

For it is the belief and hope of the editor (he says) that the following pages will show to those who are now struggling in the arduous path of art how, with a noble and unselfish aim, one has toiled and trod in the same before them; that seeing sometimes his footprints in the way, they may take heart again in their discouragements; and, above all, that they may learn, with him, to hold art, and success, and all things, but secondary to the one thing needful.

Here was promise: and we were more than surprised when hard upon it, in the very opening passage of the work, followed the more practical caution to the reader against hoping for anything but an every-day sketch of an ordinary person, a sketch free from startling incidents and dazzling traits. But, in truth, our whole notice of the work before us might well have been condensed into those few words. The heroism we were tempted by the preface to seek for, if it existed in Thomas Seddon, has been suppressed in his memoirs. No struggle, apparently, had his "noble rage" against "chill penury." No icy world "froze the genial current of his soul." He had indulgent parents, troops of affectionate friends, position and easy circumstances at his back, and (if we are wrong it is the fault of the biographer) rather drifted into art than took its difficult heights by diligent siege and perilous storm. As a sign and an encouragement to the struggling artist his Biography will be as useless as would be that of any religious

gentlemanly man who ever went to Cairo or Jerusalem. It is not deficient in neatly written passages of interest to the general reader, and a thread of genuine piety runs through it; but for all it concerns the class to whom it is especially commended in the preface, it certainly need never have been written.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW.

The Quarterly Review. No. 207. John Murray.

THE present number of the *Quarterly* opens with an able essay, or rather biographical sketch, founded upon the new edition of Mr. Hepworth Dixon's *Robert Blake, Admiral and General at Sea*. After having been engaged as a soldier on the Parliamentary side in some of the hardest fighting in the great civil war, Blake was appointed, at the age of fifty, to a command at sea, according to the fashion of the age, which did not keep the two services distinct as they are at present. In his new command he fought harder than ever, and with even more signal success; so much so, that under him the naval supremacy of England was established, and the name of General for ever merged in that of Admiral Blake. The stout old Puritan was one indeed who, if ever man did, deserved well of his country, and has earned a right, if any have, to her lasting gratitude; but he was not quite the character we expected to find very favourably mentioned in the pages of the *Quarterly Review*.

We have, however, been agreeably disappointed. The Reviewer has given a very fair account of this true worthy's career, and of the party he espoused, although we must enter a protest against our contemporary's sneer at modern Liberals and Liberalism. We cannot help believing that were he as well acquainted with them as he is with the Liberals of King Charles's age, he would do them like justice. As it is, his relation to the past seems to resemble that of the spirits in the *Inferno* to the future:—

Noi veggiam, come quei c'ha mala luce,
Le cose, disse, che ne son lontano . . .
Quando s'appressano, o son, tutto è vano
Nostro intelletto.

But to the Liberals of former days he has certainly done full justice, and we must not quarrel with him for misstatements about the present, which the reader will easily correct for himself. The second article contains a smashing criticism of a work that, a few months ago, bid fair to attain an enormous popularity—*The History of Civilization in England*, by William Buckle. We cannot help agreeing with the line the Reviewer has taken in exposing the often insufficient data upon which Mr. Buckle has so ostentatiously established his conclusions. We could wish, however, that he had a little better understood the bearing of the philosophical system of which Mr. Buckle is in many of his opinions a representative.

The review, as against the individual author, is, on the whole, conclusive and satisfactory, but not as against a class of opinions backed by names as eminent as those of Hume, Bentham, Comte, and J. S. Mill, not to mention many others of scarcely less distinction.

The Reviewer must be strangely mistaken if he supposes that a few common-place objections and the wit of a few flippant pages can furnish a *reductio ad absurdum* of the doctrine of philosophical necessity. We think that a very slight acquaintance with the subject would have convinced him that the arguments he so cleverly urges have no real force, and that the question of the punishment of murderers and other criminals does not at all turn on the degree of moral turpitude which society attaches to the individual offenders.

We are, however, not prepared to deny him the merit due to a well-written essay, though we could wish that he had shown himself as anxious to do justice to the merits as to the faults of the work before him.

Whatever men may think about the conclusiveness of Mr. Buckle's arguments, the style in which his book is written is so good, and his power of composition so remarkable, that the most adverse critic ought to have mentioned it with commendation. The *History of Civilization in England*, with all its faults, and they are many, is yet the work of no common man, and deserves a better sobriquet than the contemptuous one of "the book of errors," endorsed, though not originally applied, by our friend of the *Quarterly Review*.

The essay entitled "The Life of Wycliffe" will be found extremely interesting, written, as it is, with a genuine appreciation of the greatness of that

extraordinary man. The extracts given from Wycliffe's own writings are extremely interesting. They tell us far more about him than could be told by any mere statement of the facts of his life, or analysis of his character. We quite sympathise with the hope that Mr. Shirley, upon whose publication the review is based, will give the world some further proof of that ability and thorough historical knowledge which his friends have long known him to possess.

We presume that Professor Blunt has found a favourable notice of his work upon "The Right Use of the Early Fathers," and of that on "Early Church History," rather as an old contributor to the *Quarterly* than as a divine of any real merit or distinction. His writings, it is on all hands admitted, are deficient in that fairness and breadth of view without which the controversialist becomes a mere partisan, and fails alike to convince the outside world, or to earn or deserve its respect. In spite of the ready belief we lend to statements of the Professor's private virtues, we cannot help feeling that his works reflect no great credit upon their author, or upon the judgment of the party by which they are received with any favour.

The "light weight" of the number is a clever paper upon "Iron Bridges," in which it is stated that the process of converting cast into malleable iron, commonly attributed to Henry Cort, was, in point of fact, invented in the year 1762 by Dr. John Roebuck, founder of the old Carron Works, and grandfather of the present member for Sheffield. This paper also gives us interesting and condensed information about the High-Level Bridge at Newcastle, the Victoria over the St. Lawrence, and Mr. Brunel's last great effort at Saltash in Devonshire. It also tells us that the first successful contriver of an iron bridge was an Englishman, Mr. Pritchard, of Shrewsbury, and the second, no other than the notorious Tom Paine, staymaker, privateers-man, usher, exciseman, political economist, and revolutionary infidel, who in his later days was no mean proficient in philosophical and engineering studies.

The "Condition and Future of India," a subject of peculiar importance and difficulty, is ably discussed in the last article. It is pleasing to note the very moderate manner in which the relation of the Government to Christianity is treated of. When we hear the pious trust expressed by so many that the work of conversion, although slow, is steady in its progress, or the more confident assertions that a great door is now about to be opened, the biblical predictions to be at length fulfilled, and the fulness of the heathen world to be gathered in, we revert to the history of the past, and the small amount of hope which it really warrants. We remember, too, that the field of prophecy, however sacred, is a very open one, and receive accordingly such holy aspirations not without respect and attention, but with secret incredulity. The *Quarterly Reviewer*, though he maintains, with logical constancy, that a Government professing Christianity at home ought not to appear ashamed of its religion in the East, is yet decidedly opposed to the opening of the great door, and thinks, we believe with justice, that any such attempt would result in our summary and utter expulsion from the country.

He gives an admirable view of the land revenue system, from the times of our occupation to the present, which will be valuable aid to such as even yet are not well up in the mysteries of Zemindaree and Ryotwaree. Here such a reader will learn how abhorrence of British rule was engendered and has been brought to fatal fruit by our disregard of the passion for possession of the soil, which has deeper roots in Hindostan than in any other part of the world. He will see how, under the "Perpetual Settlement Act" of Cornwallis, the cultivator was sacrificed to the desire for the time being to create a territorial aristocracy; and how, under Lord Dalhousie, the wanton length to which the doctrine of annexation was carried, the inequitable administration of the land revenue courts, and the flagitious foreclosure of estates for the trumpety balances of defaulting zemindars, did slowly and surely forge the bolt that descended on us in 1857. We are, of course, not bound to coincide with the inference, natural in a *Quarterly Reviewer* though it be, that Lord Ellenborough was the saviour of our Indian Empire, because it cannot be disputed that under Lord Dalhousie it was brought to the verge of ruin. Nor are we disposed to concede that the happiness of the Hindoo and the well administering of India need by any means follow the transference of the government from the Leaden to the White Hall, because misery and mischief have obtained

under the former dynasty. From a *Quarterly* point of view such is, however, the case; and as the mediatisation of the East India Company is a *fait accompli*, we can only hope that view may prove correct. It is satisfactory, in the midst of the outcry for vengeance, and for the indiscriminating massacre of the revolvers, to find our duties towards the people of India, as distinct from the Sepoy, wisely and firmly insisted upon. The *Quarterly* expresses the wishes and feelings of a large and influential party, and takes a judicious stand on the side of justice against revenge—of a government administered, if at all, for the benefit of the subject races, not in the exclusive interest of the conquerors. "We have scarcely any direct interest in India," says the Reviewer, most truly, "except the well-being of its varied population. If we cannot effect this end, it is a question of the most momentous consideration how far we are justified, either by prudence or by right, in remaining there at all." The moral duties of England and her real interests can never be opposed; and in the present case we feel sure that it would prove a most short-sighted policy to deviate from the rule of even-handed justice for any supposed expediency.

MEDÆVAL ARCHITECTURE.

The Mediæval Architecture of Chester.

J. H. and J. Parker.

THE archaeological knowledge which now generally pervades the better educated classes of this country is acting beneficially, by inducing many "wise and prudent men" to publish manuals of local information which must eventually prove of the greatest service to the general history of this country. What is local is often national. Moreover, it has created an enlightened spirit of conservatism to protect from the destroying hand of ruthless ignorance or callous indifference such records and monuments of past history as are, by their inherent qualities, liable to decay from the corroding effect of time alone; this is a growth that cannot be too strongly nurtured or too tenderly looked after. "Antiquities," says Lord Bacon, "may be considered the planks of a wreck which wise and prudent men gather and preserve from the deluge of time."

What Messrs. L. W. Dillwyn and G. G. Francis, together with the Revs. J. M. Treherne and H. Longueville Jones have done for various portions of Wales, has been no less admirably carried out by Mr. J. H. Parker and the Rev. Francis Grosvenor with regard to that most ancient and interesting border city, Chester—ancient, because portions of the walls are Roman, and other remains of that period have and are being found from time to time; most interesting, from its occupying a conspicuous place in the long struggle for the subjugation of Wales throughout the twelfth and thirteenth centuries; and furthermore, the circumstance of its having two cathedrals is unique in England and almost so in Europe.

The present series of papers are reprinted from the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and owe their origin to the meeting of the Archaeological Institute at Chester, in July, 1856.

The peculiar advantages attendant upon this class of publication are, that the author can, with benefit to the general reader, compress into a small space a large quantity of general history, because he is of necessity circumscribed to a specific point. Mr. Grosvenor has proved this: learned, without being pedantic; brief, without being brusque; terse, though not turgid; broad, without ramification; full, without being discursive—thus, in thirteen and a half pages, he has given a succinct and clear history of the habits of the people and their ecclesiastical buildings from the sixth to the sixteenth century; and as the information is great and the labour of acquirement not, we earnestly recommend it to the careful perusal and attentive consideration of our readers. Mr. Parker is no less deserving of commendation, for he is imbued with the best qualifications for the elucidation of the recondite principles that constitute the architectural distinctions during the first-named and the last-quoted century, adding thereto a considerable literary ability; his demonstrations are rendered the more clear by bringing to bear a force that his learned and reverend collaborator could not avail himself of, viz. pictorial representation; and as justice is best when tempered with mercy, so is history more luminous when illustrated with pictorial art.

Altogether this book has our sincerest wishes for its success, not solely on account of any benefit that

the authors or publishers may gain thereby, but from an enlarged conviction that it is one of those publications that tend to render easier the educational process, and therefore more likely to prove advantageous to the general mass.

THE MAGAZINES.

THE MONTHLIES are rapidly losing their original character as "light reading." They have, of late, generally taken a more ambitious flight, rivalling, in everything but size and price, the more ponderous Quarterly. We do not very much admire the change; perhaps the "advancing spirit of the age" requires it; perhaps the higher intellectuality of the present generation, compared by the standard of their fathers, demands a greater proportion of subjects; aiming at solid information rather than mere amusement; but whatever may be the cause, certainly the change is one that creates in our mind a shade of regret. We miss the Magazine of our youthful days—the pleasant, easy reading, the light, graceful essay and sparkling tale; we miss, in short, the days when Lamb and his clique of genial collaborators were the prominent and welcome contributors to the serials of their day. But the critic's task is before us, and we therefore commence with

BLACKWOOD.—The number for this month opens with a very long article on "Gladstone's Homer." The reviewer has gone to work in right down earnest. Two-and-forty columns of criticism ought to satisfy the voracious literary glut, whatever may be its effect on the distinguished author. The upshot is that the work is "damned," not so much with "faint praise" as with a civil but obvious determination on the part of the reviewer that the world shall know he, at least, does not regard the work as an authority, and that he is at issue with Mr. Gladstone on most of his theories and conclusions. The article, of course, will contribute to the delectation of Grecians to whom it is mainly addressed; it will, however, be caviare to the million. The "Circulation of the Blood" appears to us out of place; its object is to question the title of Harvey to the great discovery hitherto attributed to him, but in this doubting age nothing is more common than for critics—especially Scotch critics—to set about depriving one set of time-honoured names of the paternity of great inventions and transferring the laurels to brows that no one before ever dreamt of as worthy of wearing them. Classics and Medicine having had their share of attention, Divinity properly comes next, and here we have its claims indicated in a very good article on "White's Eighteen Centuries of Christianity." The original work, of course, will only be read by a limited class, and the criticism, therefore, can only expect to be welcomed by a limited few; but by them it will be welcomed with true gusto. "London Exhibitions and London Critics," the formidable title of the next article, looks something like a defiance to the press—a daring feat equal to that of running a stick into a hornet's nest. We were prepared for an onslaught upon that brood of callow Cockneys, raw Scotchmen, and Hibernian Jackeens, which are too frequently the representatives of the critical power and high art force of no insignificant portion of the metropolitan press, but we soon discovered our mistake. The article is little more than a popgun assault on Mr. Ruskin and the art critic of the *Times*. The "Byways of Literature" touches upon a question that might have been made a great deal more of had the writer been thoroughly "up" in the subject of the cheap literature of the day, or "reading for the million," but still the article is able and tells some good truths. "Kingsley's Andromeda" and "What will he do with it," a continuation of a novel, concludes the number.

TITAN—opens with an article on "The Recent Literature of Painting and Beauty"—as lengthy and irritating as the drone of the Scotch bagpipe. "Leviter Legends" is a gossiping bit of travel very readable. We will give a taste of its quality in an extract which we commend to the notice of Cardinal Wiseman in his next "History of the Popes":—

Appear the Pope; aloft in a chair borne by men in red. He is clothed all in white, and wears the large and very ugly mitre which looks at near view less gold than gilt. He seems as if he were about to fall forward out of the chair; the motion of which is uneasy, at least to the onlooker. The poor old Pope! he really looked precisely like a great bambino (i.e. something between a boy and a baby) dressed up for fun, and with a holiday gilt cap on. Ever and anon he raised his hand in benediction, while a weakly smile moved the layers of fat on his podgy old face. So passed down the

aisle, and into a side chapel, followed by his clanking guard splendidly marshalled, and many of them looking, as they all should look, high Roman nobles. The Frenchmen were then marched off, and the crowd flowed about at its own free will. So then I had seen the Head of the Church, and gazed upon the Vicar of Christ. I had beheld one infallible, with power to forgive sins, to bind and loose—the holder of the awful keys. That weak old man in that gilt chair? I would believe it if I could, but somehow it will not go down. I never could bring myself to acquiesce in a manifest humbug, and the Pope as Pope is a monstrous one.

The other articles are of average merit, with the exception of "Behind the Scenes in Paris," of which eight mortal chapters are given—none of which Candour obliges us to confess are to our taste.

FRASER.—Our Tory friend commences with a capital article, "The Common-place Book of Richard Hilles," a manuscript in Balliol College, written by an English gentleman in the sixteenth century. We are enthusiasts in mediæval literature. Of the massive intellect of that famed age the more it is studied the more profound will be our wonder and respect. The wider our knowledge of the strong thinkers of that period the less will be our difficulty in understanding how a Shakspeare and a Bacon took their rise in that age. "Telegraph-Cable Laying in the Mediterranean" is a minute narrative of the difficulties, and the scientific means of overcoming them, which attended the submerging the telegraph which connects Europe and Africa. The "Geology and Extinct Volcanos of Central France" is one of those specialties which will have few charms for the general reader, but which will not be without its interest and value. "Catrina in Venice, part the second," is of deep interest, of questionable morality, but powerfully written. "Concerning a great Scotch Preacher" has reference to Mr. Caird's claims as a popular preacher and sermon writer. The reviewer is evidently disappointed at finding the published sermons bear no proportion in their special merit to the great popularity of the author, and he attempts to account for the circumstance by attributing it to the peculiar and impressive delivery of the preacher, wanting, of course, in their published form. To those who are curious in word portraits we present the following extract:—

His appearance is natural and unaffected. Of the middle size, with dark complexion and long black hair, good but not remarkable forehead, a somewhat careworn and anxious expression, and looking like a retiring and hard-wrought student of eight-and-thirty—there we have Mr. Caird. He begins the service by reading the psalm which is to be sung, and we are struck at once by the solemnity and depth of his voice, and we feel already something of the indescribable charm there is about the whole man. The psalm is sung by a choir so efficient that the lack of the organ is hardly felt. Then the minister rises, and, the whole congregation standing, offers a prayer.

After describing the preliminary prayer, the author goes on:—

Then Mr. Caird begins his sermon. He begins quietly, but in a manner which is full of earnestness and feeling; every word is touched with just the right kind and degree of emphasis; many single words, and many little sentences which when you read them do not seem very remarkable, are given in tones which make them absolutely thrill through you: you feel that the preacher has in him the elements of a tragic actor who would rival Kean. The attention of the congregation is riveted; the silence is breathless; and as the speaker goes on gathering warmth till he becomes impassioned and impetuous, the tension of the nerves of the hearer becomes almost painful. There is abundant ornament in style—if you were cooler you might probably think some of it carried to the verge of good taste; there is a great amount and variety of the most expressive, apt, and seemingly unstudied gesticulation: it is rather as though you were listening to the impulsive Italian speaking from head to foot, than to the cool and unexcitable Scot. After two or three such climaxes, with pauses between, after the manner of Dr. Chalmers, the preacher gathers himself up for his peroration, which, with the tact of the orator, he has made more striking, more touching, more impressive than any preceding portion of his discourse. He is wound up often to an excitement which is painful to see. The full deep voice, so beautifully expressive, already taxed to its utmost extent, breaks into something which is almost a shriek; the gesticulation becomes wild; the preacher, who has hitherto held himself to some degree in check, seems to abandon himself to the full tide of his emotion; you feel that not even his elegant lips can do justice to the rush of thought and feeling within. Two or three minutes in this impassioned strain and the sermon is done. Altogether this is a very good number.

The ENGLISH WOMAN'S JOURNAL is, we presume,

edited by some strong-minded woman, who is great on the disputed question, whether woman shall retain her present domestic position, or come forward boldly in the field of industry as the rival of masculine monopolists? Upon that subject we are not qualified to enter. The "Gallery of Illustrious Italian Women" contains examples of women with learning enough to set up half a dozen modern mathematical and classical professors. The "Workhouse Visiting Society" is a collection of sketches of workhouse interiors; among them St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, a workhouse which, say the Marlborough-street magistrates, gives them more trouble than all the other workhouses in their district put together. We cordially approve of the main purpose of the Workhouse Visiting Society, which appears to us to be to awaken public interest to the most important subject of pauperism in our workhouses. There are several Notices of Books, among them the "Memoirs of Rachel," which is not a work we should like to see in the hands of every English family.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE.—Altogether a very excellent number, second to none of its rivals in variety, and superior to many in talent. The first article from the pen of "Harry Lorrequer," is "Gerald Fitzgerald," a serial, to which three chapters are added. The novel is framed rather too much after the Dumas pattern, but it is lively, full of incident, and very readable. "Indian Commerce" does not go quite deep enough into the subject, and we suppose found its way into the Magazine because India is the engrossing topic of the day. "Cheap Security," by Martin Tupper, is the article least to our liking; the drift of it is based on the not very novel suggestion of a national rifle club, and might have been told more effectively in a briefer and simpler form. "French Politics and French Philosophy," is admirable throughout. The speculations of Hegel, Comte, Considérant, and Proudhon are ably analysed, and their consequences foreshadowed with great ability. The closing remarks are very suggestive:—

We are not prepared to pronounce beforehand on the fate of the Napoleon dynasty; we only see a fragment of the bas-relief: we look up on the prancing of horses, on shielded warriors hurling javellins, on brave men biting the dust—these all stand out in stone, but which side is in the right, and whom history will crown, we cannot even conjecture. The conclusion is, we admit, a most lame and impotent one—but what other can short-sighted mortals presume to arrive at. It is enough to know (and this shall save us from utter scepticism), that these are eternal principles at bottom of all this troubled sea of French politics. Dissolute principles, and an absolute ruler, are but as the great serpent wound round the mountain, with which Vishnu churned the ocean, to extract the amrit, or water of life. Beneath all the mire and dirt, the amrit is at bottom in France—her people can never rest—but are under a spell of turbulence, because the scum is a-top, and the amrit at bottom, of that seething ocean. Righteousness exalteth a nation—by wisdom kings reign, and princes execute judgment. Unhappily, these are not French principles, as yet. Christianity in France is but a shadowy thing, a sentiment about *le bon Dieu*—a vague impression that Voltaire was as great an impostor as the priests he ridiculed—and a respect for the genius of Christianity, as set off by the rhetoric of Chateaubriand. This is the sum total of the Christianity of average Frenchmen. What heaven is this to lighten the great lump of national character? It is a wonder that with little religion, there is less morality, and no liberty at all.

"Rides upon Mules and Donkeys" is from an experienced hand. It gives the reader a very clear insight into Egyptian doings and manners, and not the least entertaining and valuable portion is that which cleverly hits off the respective attitudes of France and England in the coveted region of Egypt. "Domus Domorum," "A Glance at Irish Art" (not written in a too Irish spirit), a review of "Sea Drift," and several other articles, altogether furnish a feast which will satisfy most literary appetites.

THE NATIONAL.—If this Magazine does not rise into the higher regions of literature it certainly does not sink to the level of the cheap literature which now inundates the lower masses of society. The selection of anecdotes, original tales, and other pleasant reading is judicious, and the accompanying illustrations are in several instances of very considerable merit.

THE ART JOURNAL has some first-class engravings from first-class pictures, principally the work of British artists. The "Il Penseroso" of Horsley is capitally engraved, but we have always felt that the monastic appearance and attire of the three fore-

most figures by no means embody Milton's idea, and certainly would have been repudiated by that sublime yet tender-souled poet. Two of Etty's celebrated works, "The Syren" and "The Combat," are very good indeed. The engraving of "Napier," by R. Artlett, from Adam's statue, is worth the whole charge of this sterling publication.

THE LADIES TREASURY fairly puzzles us—text and illustrations: "The Reaper" is a barefooted damsel apparently in the act of cutting her own throat with her reaping-hook, squinting lugubriously over her right shoulder at what may be taken for reapers in the distance, or a convocation of crows over a warm cow-dab. Mr. Charles Kean as *Hamlet* is certainly not the Charles Kean to be seen bodily at the Princess's Theatre, but, nevertheless, he cuts a very respectable figure in the "Treasury."

LIFE OF MARY ANNE SCHIMMEL-PENNINCK.

Life of Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck, Author of "Select Memoirs of Port Royal," and other Works. Edited by her relation, Christiana C. Hankin. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

BEYOND the narrow limits of the Moravian sect, the Society of Friends, and those who take an interest in that small Jansenist settlement in the Netherlands, whose history was written with a loving hand by our authoress in the "Select Memoirs of Port Royal," few are probably now living who remember Mary Anne Galton, or, under her married title, Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck. In a certain and not undistinguished stratum of the literary and scientific society of the latter part of the last and the commencement of the present century, she lived and moved from her youth upwards; but though she numbered amongst her friends such men as Dr. Priestley and Dr. Darwin, and such women as Hannah More and Mrs. Barbauld, she made no mark in literature beyond the piece of religious history before alluded to, the autobiography now before us, and two works which are promised to follow these volumes, "The Principles of Beauty," and a series of Essays, chiefly upon architecture. Her life was not an eventful one; she lived with her parents until her marriage with Mr. Schimmelpenninck, after which a family estrangement occurred in consequence of a dispute about some property; her husband failed as a Bristol shipping merchant; their means were reduced, and their way of life considerably changed; her husband eventually died, and she lived a widow till she joined him in the grave, on the 29th of August, 1856. This is a summary of the incidents which the present "Life" has to lay before us, one volume being an autobiography, and the other a biographical sketch and letters.

The editor of the two volumes and the compiler of the biographical sketch, Christiana C. Hankin, regrets the abrupt termination of the "autobiography" at the end of the first volume, and readers of taste and judgment will be disposed to agree with her. The biographical sketch is faithfully, carefully, and conscientiously compiled, with a view to develop the religious side of Mrs. Schimmelpenninck's character (the only thing left for an editor of a life of such limited incident to do), and the letters are also judiciously selected for that purpose, but there are wanting the easy grace of a simple, unaffected style, and the quiet, but graphic pictures of a rich Quaker's household seventy years ago, which make the "autobiography" so charming to those who are wearied with the more ambitious, and far less pleasing productions that are continually forced before the critical and reading world. The strong vein of poetry that runs through the book, and appears at frequent intervals upon the surface, is not offensive and obtrusive, because it is genuine, catholic, and tolerant, and free from proselytism and the assumption of sanctity.

The society that she mingled with during her youth, and residence under her parents' roof, was the most distinguished in and around Birmingham, where her father had an interest in a large business; and although the Galtons were a Quaker family of strict principles, their most intimate friends were the Berringtons, who were Roman Catholics, Dr. Priestly, the Unitarian, and Dr. Darwin, the professed and somewhat ostentatious infidel. A faithful record of a childhood and youth passed within the calm circle of a pious, refined, and wealthy family; a picture of the gradual progress of a young mind under the influence of a liberal, but home education; a career devoid of passion, where the little sorrow

that came was borne with trained religious meekness and fortitude, and where the personal deprivation consequent upon an altered state of circumstances never reached higher than the breaking up of a costly establishment with carriages and servants, to live a quiet existence in some of the most beautiful places in the west of England; a cherished intercourse with many worthy and talented friends; a renunciation of the Quaker faith and a reception into the Moravian Church,—such is the life of Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck. It will fill its allotted place in literature—a place not so unimportant as many may be apt to suppose—and by reason of its charm of style, and its pictures of a sect who do not come very often before the reading public, will secure a circulation even beyond the world of Quakers and Moravians.

HANDBOOK TO OXFORD.

Handbook for Visitors to Oxford. Illustrated by 128 Woodcuts by Jewitt, and 28 Steel Plates by Le Keux. New Edition. J. H. and J. Parker.

THIS handsome volume, with which are incorporated a considerable number of the steel and wood engravings so familiar to those who are acquainted with Dr. Ingram's Memorials, will be found a very charming souvenir of a trip to Oxford by many of the birds of passage whose longest sojourn among her courts and bowers is very often limited to a summer's day or two. The compiler has judiciously confined himself, with this idea, no doubt, to the University proper, not touching upon the thick-crowding associations connected with the town.

ADVENTURES IN CAFFRARIA.

Adventures of Mrs. Colonel Somerset in Caffraria during the War. Edited by J. D. Fenton. J. F. Hope.

WE are as incredulous as that worthy Bishop, who, after reading "Gulliver's Travels," declared that he did not believe in their truth: We do not believe in Mrs. Colonel Somerset, we do not believe in her adventures, notwithstanding the familiar names of Macomo and Sandillah, and we therefore hand over the book to readers who are not so sceptical as ourselves.

THE CHESS-BOARD OF LIFE.

The Chess-board of Life. By Quis. J. Blackwood. The author in his preface says, "Will you recommend me to your friends and acquaintance, and will you, when you go into society, maintain that I am the cleverest writer of the day? If you be a man of wit I'm sure you will answer yes, if good-natured, of course you will not say no; but if you be neither one nor the other I have nothing to say to you." Like the author, we fear we must say we are "neither one nor the other," and decline, in like manner, to have anything to say to Quis.

BOOKS RECEIVED THIS WEEK.

Tegg's First Book of Geography for Children. Designed for the Use of Families and Schools, with Engravings. Tegg and Co.

Tegg's Second Book for Children. Designed for the Use of Schools and Families, with Engravings. Tegg and Co.

The Adventures of Mrs. Colonel Somerset in Caffraria. J. F. Hope.

The Privateer. By C. Stone. J. T. Hope. Recollections of a Visit to the United States. Edinburgh. T. Constable.

Bertha Darley. By L. H. B. James Blackwood.

Common Sense. A Poem. Mountcastle.

The Private Journal of the Marquess of Hastings. K. G.

2 vols. Saunders and Otley.

Origin of the Scottish Language. Edinburgh: Nimmo.

Humboldt's Cosmos. Vol. V. H. G. Bohn.

Book for a Corner. By Leigh Hunt. H. G. Bohn.

A New Compendium of Ancient History, Geography, and Chronology. By T. Slater. Longman and Co.

Frameleigh Hall. A Novel. 3 vols. Hurst and Blackett.

EXTENSION OF THE METROPOLITAN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—Workmen are now busily engaged in extending the wires of the electric telegraph from Lothbury to Regent-street. It is said to be the intention of the directors to establish two new stations upon the route, one at the new branch post-office at the corner of Southampton-street, Iligh Holborn, and the other at the branch situated in Old Cavendish-street, Oxford-street, near to the Court-house, Marylebone-lane. One-fourth of the outdoor work is already completed.

The Arts.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The *Don Giovanni*, in all but perfect entirety, attracted a large audience on Saturday last. Madame Titiens, whose appearance recalled the grand portraits of Vandyck or Lely, acted, sang, and looked beautifully as *Elvira*. Her "Non mi dir" was magnificent; but it appeared to us that the Piccolomini, as *Zerlina*, was perhaps a little too artificial.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION: MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED.—The close of the dramatic season has induced these enterprising artists to reinforce their bill of fare by the addition of various new songs and characters. The romping hoiden of Mrs. Reed is an excellent delineation of maid-servant life. We are strongly reminded of the Thackeray ballads and Policeman X in the ditty of the lovelorn maid-of-all-work, which draws an encore on every occasion of its performance. Mr. German Reed is excessively entertaining in the medley-song with which he beguiles the intervals in his gifted partner's varied performance.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Mr. Benedict's second festival concert, on Friday, the 30th of July, attracted no less than 11,000 visitors, and was a decided success, the programme having been reasonably curtailed from its former enormous length. The overture to *Guillaume Tell* was admirably executed. Mr. Sims Reeves was heard to perfection in the impressive composition known as "Martin Luther's Hymn," and Miss Pyne, although indisposed, executed the most popular *marceau* from the *Crown Diamonds* of Auber with her usual admirable facility. That unrivalled pianiste, Arabella Goddard, played an accompanied choral fantasia in her own irreproachable style, and the celebrated *Macbeth* music of grand old Matthew Locke was as much admired as ever. A ballad, entitled "Who shall be fairest?" procured an enthusiastic encore for Mr. Sims Reeves, and this valuable singer, with Mr. Weiss, infused all their power into the "To arms! Britons, strike home" of Purcell.—On Thursday the new picture-gallery at the Crystal Palace was opened for private view, and we have to congratulate the directors upon this great addition to the already varied attractions of their splendid enterprise. We shall take an early opportunity of reporting at some length upon the collection of British and foreign pictures exhibited, as well as upon the very interesting series of photographs, photographic portraits and busts, removed from various parts of the building.

THE ROYAL SURREY GARDENS, under the very able management of Mr. E. T. Smith, continues to attract the transpontine public and great numbers from this side to whom the late hours of the now fashionable Cremorne are inconvenient. It is, perhaps, a needless expense to have an outdoor dancing platform in addition to the ball in the grand salle, but by this means the crowd of visitors is certainly divided and all have the opportunity of enjoyment. The opera recitals are an excellent idea as affording all the pleasure of delightful music to the Surrey million whom circumstances debar from visiting the distant haunts of music on this side the water. On the occasion of our visit we heard a selection from *Linda di Chamouni*, supported by artists of no less repute than Madame Persiani, Madame Pomar, Signor Naudin, and Mr. Charles Braham, led by the talented young conductor, Signor Vianisi, and Mr. George Hayward. Madame Persiani and Signor Naudin were encored in the duet, "Da quel di," in their best style, and the latter artist found scope in "Linda!—si retrò" for the best part of his register. Madame Pomar was very successful in Alexander Lees's "Scottish Blue-bells," as was also Miss Laura Baxter in the beautiful and romantic "Cara Luoghi" of Donizetti. The *Zampa* overture, perhaps the most popular of its class, was well played at the opening of the third part, and the most genuine encore of the evening was extended to Miss Laura Baxter's rendering of the ever charming "Where the Bee Sucks." We have sufficiently indicated that the entertainment offered by Mr. Smith is of a high class and merits extensive patronage.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD PAUL, at the Egyptian Hall in Piccadilly, commenced on Monday their pleasing entertainment called *Patchwork*. This production, contrary to usual custom, has received its impersonation in the provinces, where it has been exceedingly successful. It consists of about a dozen characters, half of which are performed by the lady and half by the gentleman. The most successful piece of Mrs. Paul's were the *Irish Nursemaid* (a capital piece of personation) and *Miss Gushington*, a lady who recites the story of her infatuation with a French count, who turned out to be a shoplifter, and, what the lady thought was worse, a journeyman biscuit-baker. Mr. Paul is clever in his impersonations, and as a Poor Relation and as a very old gentleman of the very olden time, was extremely successful. Mrs. Paul's fine voice is a great aid to her, and altogether *Patchwork* is likely to take its place amongst work of a more pretentious kind.

INDIA.

THE RED SEA TELEGRAPH.

We are almost as much ashamed as rejoiced to announce that the Red Sea telegraph is to be proceeded with. When the telegraph ought already to be open, and to have done much of its work, then does the Government, driven on by the public voice, afford the necessary encouragement for this enterprise. None, we believe, but members of the Government, doubt that a telegraph to India is a necessary part of the machinery of our governmental system, for there is a strange sluggishness, which oppresses Government functionaries and frightens them from following on the full tide of enterprise. The Government adopted steamers only when the commercial marine no longer left it even the chance of experiment. They adopted iron after every one else had been confirmed in its use, and they hesitated and threatened its abandonment, on the ground of its behaviour under shot, when its employment was fully established. The screw found its last supporters in the Government offices. So, too, England was covered with telegraphs before the Admiralty gave up the semaphores, and the submarine lines were laid without Government help. A foreigner, who knew nothing of England, would have expected that the Post-office would be found conducting the telegraphs. Luckily, although the Post-office is one of our best public establishments, and is, thanks to the exertions of Rowland Hill and able assistants, a model for the world, telegraphs have in this country been left to private enterprise, or most places would have no telegraphs yet. Fifty years after Trevithick gave the great impulse to the railway system, and thirty after George Stephenson established it by practical example, Government is trying its hand at a parcels post, and contending with railway companies about the means of conducting it, and which can be only effected by stripping the railway companies of a large revenue they have created.

When Sir Macdonald Stephenson began his successful career in the establishment of Indian railways, he only contemplated the connexion of the system with England by an overland railway and by a telegraph. It was he who laid the foundation of the route through Asia Minor, and devoted several years to the necessary negotiations, when it was taken out of his hands by intrigue. Happily he directed his attention to the Red Sea route, and having received the support of many public men and leading capitalists, he applied to the Government for their countenance and support. It might have been thought that the recommendations of such a man would have been at once adopted, but all that was accorded to his public services was the ear of the Government, and the barren profession of a favourable opinion. The Indian mutiny broke out, and he then the more firmly pressed the undertaking on the Government. They were obliged to promise him something, very little in fact, and left him and his company to carry on a kind of paper war with the Euphrates Valley Company without even effective political support. Thus the endeavours of Sir Macdonald and his co-directors proved abortive, and the shares not having been taken up by the public, the undertaking was suspended for a time, and was considered dead, and it would have been so had it not been for the energetic men concerned in its management, for they paused not in their agitation, and they have now obtained a guarantee on a large amount of capital.

This guarantee only amounts to four and a half per cent., and is no such liberal measure of public patronage after all, but as Government securities float at three and a half per cent., the Treasury consider they have made a great concession, and as the public leave this four and a half per cent. as a stand-by, and really look to the eight or ten per cent. paid by other telegraph companies for their real return, the capital will be secured, though exposed to the hazard of a double defeat, for had the market this week proved heavy, had any bad report been circulated from the Continent, or had a leading partisan been attacked with colic, Consols might have gone down half per cent., and the company been defeated in obtaining its capital, and the Government been defeated in a financial arrangement, such being the risks of the policy of the Treasury, which halts short of liberal encouragement.

The concession of this guarantee is a great triumph to the promoters of the undertaking, but it is a serious reflection on the late and present administrations that it should have been so long delayed. India is now provided with main lines of telegraph, communicating with the presidencies and leading stations, and had there been a junction at Bombay or Kurrachee before the revolt, that disastrous occurrence would have been stripped of many of its terrors. It would have been known in India that at once succour was demanded from home, it would have been announced that succour was already on its way, and many a sinking heart would have been

strengthened for the brief struggle of holding our own till reinforcements arrived.

How much the policy of the Government would have been strengthened has been matter of comment over and over again, but it has not been so strongly impressed upon the public mind how much the superior, but still subordinate, functionaries of the Government in the out-stations would have been brought to a feeling of confidence and unanimity, knowing that the home and supreme Governments were acting in harmony. We believe, too, the telegraph to England would have had a fearful effect on the native princes, who have already felt what a mastery of resources the local telegraphs give to the Government, and who would have known that the mighty powers above the supreme Government, to whom appeal is made, were ready on summons to pour forth the treasures with which India is yearly glutted, to reinforce the ships and steamers, and to augment the European soldiery. We doubt not that many a hapless man, who is now attainted or in danger of forfeiture, would not have wavered in his allegiance. The want, too, of this instantaneous means of doing more than communicating disasters, for it announces the progress of fleets and the march of armies, must have materially aggravated the perils of the struggle. Within three days after Cawnpore it would have been known in Delhi itself that a large force of European artillery was within two months' reach, and that European armies would within three months reach the spot. Six weeks or two months saved in preparation would have been a powerful help to our efficiency in acquiring our means of repression, but double that time saved in announcing that fleets and armies, artillery, engineers, cavalry, and infantry were in movement, would have stricken with awe many a mutineer. The moral elements of warfare are in the hands of great statesmen as powerful as the material instruments, and by a Napoleon are wielded with equal effect.

To treat this undertaking in reference to its political services is, however, after all, not to do full justice to it; for if in an emergency like the present its services are invaluable, yet such emergencies pass away, and the ordinary avocations of Government do not become of greater moment than those of the merchant. It matters little whether one thousand sabres or one thousand bales of cotton are ordered by telegraph; whether X. Y., B.C.S., is ordered out, whether Dowd is to be cared for, or Messrs. Smith, Brown, and Robinson send for an extra clerk; but the demands of commerce on the telegraph are greater than those of the Government. In peace or war, however, the telegraph has always its work and a constant source of income. It is easy to see, that at the worst, the Government will always cover its guarantee, for it has business enough to pay the required income to the telegraph company; but in effect the result of the operations will be to give the Government telegraphic communications much cheaper than it could by its own exertions obtain it.

The income must, however, be enormous, because the commerce of India and China is enormous. The silk trade alone, to take an example, can bear a large toll, for the moment the crop fails in Europe numerous orders will be sent out for purchase, and the Eastern silk be delivered before the next year's European silk can come in. Now operations are disturbed, because when the failure of the European crop has been announced, the news is three months reaching China and the silks four months coming back, and they reach England, perhaps, at the moment when a heavy silk crop has been announced in Lombardy and its supplies are coming in, and thereby a glut, or fear of a glut, is created, prices go down, and an individual firm, as many did in these late operations, loses a hundred thousand pounds, for silk was bought in China at higher prices than ruled here. Then there is cotton; the Indian export of cotton is to a great degree a season export dependent on a short crop in the United States, and when there is a heavy crop in the United States Indian cotton shipments run great risk of bringing a loss to the shippers. The telegraph will set this right, and cotton will be shipped from Bombay and placed here before even the prospects of the next year's crop in the States can be known or can touch the market. In the sugar operations consequent upon short crops and increased consumption, the telegraph would have given greater safety in his operations to the East Indian merchant. Wools, hemp, rice, oil-seeds, and all articles of produce dependent on the prices of other markets can be more safely speculated in with the telegraph, for the merchant here can advise his house or agent in the East to what price he can go in his purchases, and so press the local markets as to work down the local stocks and increase the shipments.

Great as have been the effects of the telegraph on European and American commerce, they are as yet not fully known, nor will they be felt till the Red Sea telegraph or the Atlantic telegraph are in operation.

The value of the telegraph in the export trade is no less, for it announces two critical dates of the market, glut and deficiency, and allows the merchant to act accordingly. In narrow markets glut is quickly followed by short stocks, and there are particular articles that are always subject to vicissitudes. There is a further contingency affecting the merchant. He may be running short of a particular article, of which he has a regular

consumption in his own connexion, and the result may be, he may be obliged to try for supplies from some other firm, or he may be unable to obtain them, while, by telegraph, he would get aid in several ways: he might know when to calculate on his own supplies, that a ship on which he depended had put into the Cape in distress, that a bargain had been made by the home correspondents of his neighbours' firms, or that supplies had been ordered for him from some neighbouring port, and were already shipped, and on their way.

This is but a small portion of the business of a telegraph company, for the personal communications would afford a considerable revenue, but in fact, there is no doubt in the mind of any practical man, with prudent management the income of the Free Telegraph Company must far exceed the guarantee.

THE CIVIL SERVICE OF INDIA.

THE familiar term of "the Civil Service" appears to be of such simple significance that it might be supposed it would in all places mean the same thing. In England it means the general body of public servants, of all ranks and conditions, who are employed in the various civil departments of Government; and the only public servants not included are those (like, for example, Cabinet Ministers) whose employment is casual. It includes all ranks, as, for example, the Judges of the County Courts and the Judges of Westminster Hall, the Government secretaries and head clerks of the great political departments, and equally the clerks of every grade below them. The Civil Service has a certain unity and homogeneity, thus defined. We place before our readers this familiar description for the purpose of remarking that it does not apply to the Indian "Civil Service" according to the Indian use of the term. The Indian Civil Service is a part, not the whole; and there is no term that we are aware of in use in India to designate the whole. The general body of Indian civil officials, indeed, is spoken of in England as the Civil Service; and journals, such as the *Civil Service Gazette*, report appointments indiscriminately in every branch in the same words; but this requires correction.

The term "the Civil Service" in India, belongs to a section numerically small, and whose more specific designation is the covenanted civil servants of Government; in fact the term has been, by a sort of arrogation, applied exclusively to one section, and so they are the Civil Service, *par excellence*, and all other public servants must be content with their names of office (e.g. Moonsiff, Sudder Ameen, &c., as the case may be), or to be "uncovenanted" servants. We have given this explanation of the term as a necessary introduction to the explanation of the peculiar institution.

The world at large, and unprejudiced and uninitiated persons, will at once perceive how arbitrary is the classification which arrogates to a part a name which, in its legitimate sense, belongs to the whole. But in this arrogation there is much more than a mere name. Assumed as a distinction, it is used as a title; and so it comes to denote an aristocracy of public servants. This, be it observed, is no imputation of ours; it is the view which the members of this class take of their order and of themselves. Moreover, it has important practical consequences; it affects intercourse, manners, conversation, and official deportment and administration. Many persons probably may think this an exaggeration. Well, we will admit that there are many exceptions; we allude to the men of sterling worth whom no system or institution can spoil; but, on the other hand, there are many more who delight in these personal pretensions; who regard them as the essential support of their importance; to whom they are vital principles; and who insist on reaping the proper fruits from them. Some of those fruits may easily be imagined. We will only give a short instance—the disparagement, for example, of native rank; a very great rājā must be, comparatively, a very small man in the presence of the official; and the native habit of fawning and dissembling must be called into exercise to please that exalted class of public servants.

We have, however, still to point out several important consequences of this peculiar classification of public civil servants. It affects salaries, making them absurdly unequal. It affects also the division of employments, and their distribution. We will begin with their distribution. This class has its privileged offices; in other words, there are certain offices which belong to this class by exclusive right, and which, therefore, cannot legally be conferred on other persons. From this circumstance of privilege, this branch of the public service has been called a monopoly service—

a term which we have heard objected to as vulgar vituperation; but our readers will see that there is essential truth in the term; it expresses a fact of great importance, which fact is founded on a law, and for those who wish the fact and law to be rightly appreciated as well as known, there is no other equally significant designation. It is this monopoly which has made the patronage of the East India Directors so valuable. The Civil Service is a charmed circle, with its appanages and rights, and is liable to no intrusion; whose good things no others can ever share; and the only complaint ever heard in the circle is only of more or less favouritism in the distribution, among the privileged themselves, of those good things.

Our readers will readily believe that such a monopoly as this must, from its nature, in time become a great political evil; and that time is the present. It has been found most inconveniently to tie up the hands of the chiefs of administration. Unmistakable proofs could be collected of their sense of it as an evil. For instance, only a few months ago, Mr. Halliday, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal—a man invested by his office with the government of forty millions of people—selected for one of the highest judicial appointments a man whose life had been passed in judicial office, and who had proved his qualifications. The nomination was disallowed by the Court of Directors because the office was a privileged one, and the nominee did not belong to the privileged class. Mr. Halliday must have known the rule. Why, then, did he make a futile and abortive nomination? He has at least discredited the rule with us, whatever may have been his intention. On the disallowance it became necessary to place on that high seat of justice one of the privileged class, and the member selected was one who had been recently refused, on the ground of an inferior reputation for ability and talent. Lord Dalhousie also was believed to have wished, on more occasions than one, to get rid of the rule.

We have said, also, that it affects salaries, making them absurdly unequal. For every effect there must be a cause. That there are glaring, monstrous inequalities in Indian salaries is notorious beyond question. But take the case which we have just mentioned, of the judge (for such he was) who was prevented taking the promotion which Mr. Halliday assigned to him, because he was not a privileged person. The office which he held as an unprivileged person had a salary of under 1000*l.* per annum; the office which he was not permitted to hold for privilege, had a salary of nearly 5000*l.* per annum.

This case also illustrates our remaining proposition, that the division of offices is affected by the classification which recognises as a "Civil Service" only one class, section, or caste of public servants.

MR. EWART'S COMMITTEE ON THE COLONISATION AND SETTLEMENT OF EUROPEANS IN INDIA.

In our last notice of the valuable evidence given before this committee, we dwelt emphatically on "the state necessity" (as a medical witness justly designated it) of having sanitary stations in the hills for the constant location of large reliefs from our European troops in India. The same evidence further proves that there are places fit for such stations in every part of India—north and south, east and west—and, consequently, that this "state necessity" may be amply provided for, if the Government be brought properly to appreciate it.

We will now turn to another branch of the inquiry, "How has it happened that so few Europeans are to the present day settled in the interior of India?" Several European settlers, chiefly from Bengal, were called, and examined on this question. The first of these was Mr. Theobald, who appeared as the agent of the class. The question put to him and his answer were as follow:—

You have mentioned that there is only a small number of Europeans settled in the interior: how do you account for that fact?—I believe it is owing to a great variety of causes, some of which operate in one part, and some in another part, and some in all parts of India. The people who go to India are capitalists, and of the middle classes, and they require to be tolerably secure in their persons and property. In some parts they cannot get a footing at all as capitalists, in consequence of the land revenue system in those parts; the land revenue system in other parts does not exclude them; but where, as in Lower Bengal, the land revenue system is more favourable for capitalists, and where, consequently,

Europeans have settled, their position is one of danger and difficulty; danger to their capital from many faults in the revenue system, which still admits of their settlement; and danger both to their persons and property in consequence of the bad state of the local administrations generally. Another cause is the want of proper laws, among others, a *lex loci* for Europeans and East Indians; and I must add to those causes the constant apprehension in which, for many years past, they have been kept, of being put in a worse condition by the repeated proposal of measures, such as the late *Afray Bill*, such as the *Black Acts*, and such as many parts of Mr. Macaulay's *Penal Code*, which I think would be much reprobated by all classes in England; and our position is often made very disagreeable by the conduct of the ruling branch of the civil service towards us. And lastly, there is the want of intercommunications, such as roads, railroads, &c., and the want of improvements to facilitate travel and traffic.

It must be obvious to every reader that this statement was a prepared one; and is marked with a degree of gravity and deliberation which are well calculated to fix the attention; and if the sequence of causes which it presents is observed, its comprehensiveness is impressive and striking. In import, it is undoubtedly an indictment of the past Indian administration; and in that respect it may be regarded under the twofold aspect of facts to be proved and of impressions and opinions. We will deal presently with the facts, but must first remark that the European settlers generally appear to hold the same opinions. Not a single one could be brought by cross-examination to repudiate or modify Mr. Theobald's statement. For the first time, then, we have in this evidence something like public opinion; and we ask, how can the Governor-General, or any local Governor, be politically strong, with a high-spirited body of his own countrymen so decidedly averse to the established policy and system of the Government? It appears to us, from this point of view alone, that some great changes are wanted, and are indispensable in our Indian policy and administration.

Let us turn our attention now to the facts. The one great fundamental fact to be explained being the extreme paucity of European settlers, a series of facts are alleged to account for that one. We will eliminate them from the general statement. Fact No. 1. That in some parts Europeans cannot get a footing at all as capitalists in consequence of the land revenue system. Now, it is clear that in India, Europeans are not wanted, and cannot exist at all, as mere labourers, and, therefore, to say that they cannot get a footing as capitalists is equivalent to saying they are wholly precluded from settling. The parts referred to in this allegation are Bombay and Madras, two countries, each large enough for a separate kingdom; and the fact is that there are no European settlers in them, or they are so insignificantly few as not worth mentioning. This brings us, then, to fact No. 2: That Europeans are prevented from settling in those parts by the land revenue system. The system referred to is known by the name of the Ryotwari settlement, and is entirely of British origin. The East India Company has always assumed, wherever it has conquered, the claim of the native sovereign to be the lord paramount of the soil. Under this system, it appears to be the immediate proprietor of the soil; and, in that capacity, is entitled to receive the rent from the actual cultivators, be their holdings great or ever so small. To carry out this relation, it divides the country into counties (we will call them); in each county it places one Collector—a European—and under him it employs an agency (which is entirely native) for the purpose of registering the peasants, measuring their holdings, valuing their lands, and collecting the rents. There are counties as big as Yorkshire, with a tenantry to be numbered by hundreds of thousands, and a native revenue police consisting of many thousands. Now, we may safely leave the result of such a system to our reader's imagination, if the subject is new to him, and if he knows what Ireland was thirty years ago, it will very much help him to a just conception. But the Madras Torture Report, which has brought to light some of its features, is generally known; and all we need add for our present purpose is, that this system, according to the evidence, prevents Europeans from settling wherever it prevails. First, it offers no kind of proprietary interest which is suitable for them. They require landed property to give them a position and influence. And, secondly, it has pauperised the rural population, and the state of the population is an obstruction to them.

It must be confessed that this state of things

raises a very difficult problem for the new Government. It strikes us as not very dissimilar from what existed in Ireland. There is a similarly pauperised tenantry, the same want of capital, the same absence of farmers on a large scale; the rapacious middlemen appear not in that character, but in the native agency employed by the Government, and the one collector—imbecile and helpless, to arrest the evil and to plant the seeds of a new prosperity—may not inaptly be compared to the old Irish proprietor, with his debts, pride, and embarrassments. There was, undoubtedly, the hand of Providence in the Irish regeneration; but, undoubtedly, also, it was essentially assisted by political wisdom. For the latter we may find hope through the recent change; and though the problem is a difficult one, we cannot despair even of Indian regeneration.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

RAILWAYS in India begin to show marked progress, although that progress is far too slow for her wants. The Madras Railway is now opened for nearly a hundred miles, which enables it to be useful, and that is something after the many years of probation under the experimental system. We may remind our readers that it is now above twelve years since the Madras Railway was planned by the late Mr. Heath, one of the most zealous friends of India. Heath was one of that distinguished body, the Madras Civil Service, and being in office in Coimbatore, he took active measures in the beginning of this century for the promotion of the cotton cultivation, in which he received the support of the Government. In the course of his active career, his attention was turned to the rich iron ores of Southern India, and he likewise induced the Government to take measures for extending their manufacture. It is indeed half a century ago since Heath laid the groundwork of those measures, still of slow progress, for the establishment of the Indian iron manufacture, and the present Indian Iron Company is in possession of the works founded through Heath's recommendations by the Madras Government. Heath was not content with projecting; he devoted his time and his scientific powers to the establishment of the undertaking, and finding that the persons employed in India, and the English ironmasters consulted, did not succeed in the process of smelting, he applied himself to the task, and came home to England to prosecute his researches. He not only succeeded in making Indian smelting practicable, by determining the right mode of treating the ores, but unfortunately for him he discovered an important improvement in the manufacture of cast steel, and became one of the greatest national benefactors, and a man of ruined fortunes, for the steel manufacturers who adopted his process combined against him, and he had to sustain a litigation in defence of his patent rights, which is an opprobrium to that branch of the administration of the law, for his own discoveries were allowed to be played off against himself, the judges divided into factions, and though his representatives are still before the courts, Heath himself died long since broken-hearted. In his later years the Madras Railway was one of the undertakings on which his energies were employed.

The Madras Railway was as urgently called for in 1848 as in 1858, but it has never yet met with that full measure of Government support that it deserves, for although it has a Government guarantee, its operations are not sufficiently extended to enable it to embrace the large district which it traverses, and its traffic arrangements have been seriously impeded by Government interference. Nevertheless, the energetic efforts of its directors have surmounted many obstacles, and it is beginning a career of success. Since the end of 1857 fifteen miles more have been opened for traffic, so that the continuous line from Madras to Goriatam is ninety-seven miles, and the consequence is the goods traffic now begins to come on the line, although not to the full extent, as produce brought within such a distance of Madras is apt to be continued in the hands of the same carriers. The goods traffic in the last half-years of 1856 and 1857 were severally 15,720 tons and 19,780 tons, and the receipts 3835*l.* and 6672*l.*; but the quarters ending 31st March, 1857 and 1858, were severally 5322 tons and 9157 tons, and the receipts 1694*l.* and 3919*l.* Upon these figures the opening to Goriatam will exercise a further favourable influence. At the two periods the mileage was 65 miles and 81 miles.

We are glad to learn that the opening of the line from coast to coast will now be effected by the 1st May, 1860, the works having been delayed by the bridges and the bursting of some tanks on the line between Madras and Arcot. In consequence of the latter casualty a better provision has been made, by increasing the culverts and bridges, for carrying off land floods.

Among the important measures which the directors have under their consideration are the means of improving the harbour of Belloor and forming a junction with the port of Cochin. The railway companies will be the means of doing for India what the Government has

hitherto had small opportunity of effecting, forming new posts and improving the old posts. Thus the commerce of the country will be improved, not only by better, quicker, and cheaper means of conveyance being provided, but by new outlets being opened for produce, and consequently the expenses of transport being thereby reduced.

It is by means of the railway system in England that Southampton, Milford, Seaham, Middlesborough, Fleetwood, Pyle of Fendrey, Ardrossan, Britton Ferry, and many a port of the Northumbrian coast and of South Wales has been made the scene of vast commerce. Thirty years ago, the towns of Middlesborough, Fleetwood, and Barrow were represented each by one or two cottages or a rabbit-warren. By railways, traffic has been brought to these places and natural harbours made useful, or artificial harbours created to supply the want, the harbour and dock dues repaying the advances for greater improvements. Hence there has been in England a vast increase of harbours, docks, piers, and hydraulic works, from which the Government has shrunk. In India, we remember with some compunction, how many plans for an out-harbour of Calcutta, at Saugor, Diamond Harbour, &c., have been talked of and nothing done, and of the talk about Mangalore, Beypoor, Cochin, and Porto Novo, Kurrachee is the solitary case of progress. The remedy is the encouragement of railway companies by the Government in the prosecution of public works, and among these the proposed measures for the improvement by the Madras Railway Company of Beypoor and Cochin.

A most interesting feature in the Madras Railway accounts is the increase of the mileage rates of passenger and goods traffic. Thus the average traffic of passengers in the last half of 1856 was 16l. per mile, and of 1857 18l. per mile, and of goods 1856, 9l. per mile, and 1857, 13l. per mile.

BANK OF EGYPT.

The Bank of Egypt has been established in consequence of our growing intercourse with that country as the high road to India. The Alexandria Railway and the proposed Red Sea Telegraph will confirm the hold the Peninsular and Oriental steamers have given us on Egypt. The chief operations of the Bank of Egypt hitherto have been at Alexandria, but measures have been taken to carry on the Cairo branch, which was opened in April. In time, we presume, there will be an agency at Suez, and there are other openings for business in Egypt. One great advantage of Alexandria as a seat of banking operations is, that there is a large European mercantile community, and that there are large commercial transactions with Europe, so that Alexandria may be considered in this sense a European city, and the Government business may likewise be carried on with advantage, but there are places in the East where banking cannot be carried on with propriety or safety, as the individuals concerned and the state of the law would occasion heavy losses by the repudiation of engagements.

The full capital of 250,000l. is now paid up, the last call being appropriated to the Cairo branch. The moneys of the public in hand amount to 340,510l., and these will be increased, as with the growth of confidence, the Turkish and other inhabitants find the benefit of such a place of deposit. With judicious management large funds will be received from classes to whom no large advances can with prudence be made. The cash kept in hand is 44,626l., and the amount advanced on the discount of bills and securities, &c., 558,894l.

The profits declared for the half-year are 16,402l., from which 8000l. has most judiciously been written off the preliminary expenses—an item which it is always desirable to extinguish as early as possible—8750l. paid in a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, and 6020l. is carried forward as a balance. The profits so declared exceed those of the foregoing half-years. In the next half-year the late and last call will be made productive, and the Cairo branch will be at work, bringing in further funds and thereby increasing the profits, though Alexandria will of course be the chief place for the employment of the funds. There is, therefore, little doubt the dividend, even in the ensuing half-year, will be considerably increased.

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

COLONEL ARTHUR COTTON having been reported at Madras, is gazetted as Chief Engineer, and we shall look forward to his active exertions for the promotion of public works, and we hope that none will be delayed under his administration.

He has been to the north, examining the junction of the Nuddes rivers with the Ganges, and he reports that they can be improved, and made available for navigation.

The railway companies, among other incidental measures of improvement, are extending the electric tele-

graph, so that besides the Government lines, we shall have a large system of telegraphy by the railways. The Madras Railway has in this way laid out, up to the end of last year, 4574l.

The Government has directed that the bridge of boats over the Jumna at Delhi shall be made permanent, but we hope a better means of communication will in time be found.

From Hoptown, Darjeeling, it is reported that seven more allotments have been disposed of, and that a hundred thousand seedling tea-trees have this season been put in at that settlement.

An interesting report has been published by Dr. Cleghorne, on the important subject of planting the Neelgherries. This district, like many others, has suffered by the destruction of timber, and Captain Campbell, two or three years ago, called the attention of the Madras Government to it, and obtained the assistance of Dr. Cleghorne, and a grant for planting Australian and Himalayan trees.

Dr. Cleghorne has chosen a site of 600 acres, about three miles and a half from Jackatalla, and made arrangements for acquiring the freehold as a Government plantation. As yet he has only planted about six or eight acres, but he has put in about a hundred thousand seedlings, which will, in due course, be planted out in the adjoining ground.

Captain Campbell himself has put in a large number of trees around the barrack.

Mr. E. B. Thomas, the collector, has planted eight thousand Australian trees at Ootakamund.

These worthy co-operators have taken effectual measures for increasing the new trees, and a further conservancy force is to be employed to check the destruction of old timber by the natives. The Government has liberally supported these operations, which have been effected at a very moderate expense.

The intercourse between Madras and Rangoon has now become so important that Messrs. Gladstone, Wylie, and Co., have put on a line of steamers, so as to open a regular communication twice a month. Two steamers are at present employed. This will, among other things, serve to open an outlet for Madras labour.

The Ceylon Railway managers have been rather embarrassed in their labour operations, but have made arrangements to obtain the requisite supply from the main.

Matheran has this season been the residence of Lord Elphinstone, the Governor of Bombay, but on the setting in of the rains, he left. This hill district is, like many others in the south, and like Chirra Ponjee in the north, very disagreeable during the rains, from the excessive damp.

The applications for the Red Sea Telegraph shares this week flowed in so fast, that on Wednesday the list was closed. The shares were quoted $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ premium. The deposit of 2l. per share was paid into the bankers by the applicants.

At the Madras Railway meeting on Monday a very satisfactory report was presented.

It will be seen with some satisfaction that a municipal commission has been created by the Bombay Government for the city of Poona. The commissioners are—the executive engineer, the civil surgeon, and the superintendent of police, *ex officio*; and five government nominees—the assistant collector, the assistant judge, the Mam commissioner, the assistant Mam commissioner, and the superintendent of the engineering school, so that the official element reigns supreme. We hope the next stage of progress will be the appointment of settlers as commissioners, and before long an English municipality. With the advance of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway from Bombay, Poona will now become of still greater importance as an up-country residence.

Notwithstanding the revolt, such is the progress of enterprise in India, that the new year was inaugurated by the publication in Bengal of an engineering periodical, brought out fortnightly at Calcutta, and styled the *Engineers' Journal and Railway and Public Works Chronicle*. The first copies have now reached this country. It will be remembered that the engineering college at Roorkee issues some useful engineering publications.

The great obstacle to our import trade for months past has been the difficulty of procuring carriage for merchandise to the interior. Colonel Cotton, who has gained such celebrity for hydraulic works in the Madras Presidency, has, at the request of Government, examined the subject of connecting Calcutta with the Ganges by a canal; and having inspected the country, he a few days ago submitted the result of his observations to the Chamber of Commerce. His proposal is, to form a canal from Rajmahal, passing by Moorshedabad and Kishnagur, to Calcutta the facilities of construction, he states, are greater than in similar works; which have been executed in the deltas of the Cauvery, Godavery, and Kistna, while the advantages to be expected are much greater. The extraordinary success which has attended similar undertakings in the Madras Presidency gives those who have considered the question the greatest confidence in the undertaking, and the Chamber have resolved to petition the Government to carry it out. Except a deep cutting near the head at Rajmahal, the canal would be carried between embankments above the level of the country, no excavations being necessary

except just sufficient to form the embankments. The canal would be navigable for large steamers at any speed, or boats of five hundred tons, and would, at the same time, supply water for irrigation to a million of acres. The cost of the work is estimated at 800,000l., while the annual increase in the produce of a million acres from irrigation would be 100,000l., and the saving on the present goods traffic 750,000l., or more than 100 per cent. on the cost! When we mention that the cost of transit by the proposed canal would not exceed 1 rupee per ton hence to Rajmahal, the time occupied being only two to three days, while the river steamers at this season charge 120 rupees per ton for light freight, and take at this season nine days to perform the same distance, the saving in time and expense of transit may be imagined; to which advantages must be added the avoidance of risk, which alone is equal to 6 to 8 per cent.

Mercantile and Commercial.

TRADE: PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS.

THE price of Consols since the payment of the dividends at the commencement of last month has been gradually rising, and with good harvests, quiet politics, capital flowing into the country, and not much required in trade, the price seems likely to continue to rise. Railway shares, though the traffic returns are not very favourable, and other securities are affected like Consols, or even show in general a greater comparative rise in their value. The price of commodities, on the contrary, continues to tend downwards, as if it were the complement of the other price. Prices are both the means of distributing commodities and the guides to industry in producing them; and a knowledge of the conditions on which they depend may make us less impatient for the revival of trade, and enable us to form correct opinions when this is likely to take place. We are about to refer briefly, therefore, to the course of trade in the last few years in connexion with prices, in order to explain its present, and give us a clue to its future condition.

Not till 1849 did trade recover from the commercial convulsion of 1847 and the political convulsion of 1848. The declared value of the exports then, for the first time, exceeded the value in 1845, and was 63,596,025l. The value of the exports rose in the following year to 71,367,855l., in 1851 to 74,448,722l., and in 1852 to 78,076,854l. In 1853, however, it jumped up nearly 21,000,000l., and was 98,933,781l. These figures are quoted as an illustration of the rapid expansion of our trade, which was accompanied by an expansion of trade throughout Europe. The discoveries of gold on the shores of the Pacific, in conjunction with the removal of restrictions, gave a great impulse to enterprise. A great addition was suddenly made to the wealth to be exchanged for the produce of Europe. Increased consumption followed increase of enterprise, and a rise took place in prices. The average price, for example, of a quarter of wheat in the beginning of 1853 was 38s. 4d.; in November, 1853, it was 72s. 5d., the highest price of the year, a rise of nearly 90 per cent. In the same period the price of cattle rose 8 per cent., of silk 30, of wool 14, of coffee 24, of iron 80, and of tea 90 per cent. The crop of sugar was very abundant, and the price declined; but before the close of 1853 there was a general rise in prices, though not in all cases equal to the rise in the price of wheat.

Whatever might be the consequences of the war with Russia, as it did not begin till the end of March, 1854, it was not the cause of the previous rise in prices. Before it began the monthly average price of wheat rose, in February, 1854, to 80s. 10d., and continued high, again reaching 80s. 10d. in November, 1855, till after the harvest of 1856. Then it fell to 60s., and was below that figure all through 1857, falling to 48s. at the close of the year, while the average price of the year was 56s. 4d. At present the average price is 43s. 9d. The price of other commodities, particularly of those affected by the war, rose in 1854, and following, though at a distance, the wheat-market, fell in 1857, before the general discredit, of which the fall was the precursor. The following table states the price of several articles in the first week of April, 1857, and the prices of the same articles in November of the same year:—

PRICES—1857.

ARTICLES.	First week in April.	First week in November.
Coffee, nat. Cey. cwt	59s 6d to 63s	54s to 58s
Leather crop hides lb	1s 6d to 1s 9d	1s 5d to 1s 8d
Bar iron	87 10s to 87 15s	77 15s to 81
Sperm oil	90 1/2 to 100 1/2	80 1/2 to 81 1/2
Rice, Carolina	23s to 40s	21s to 38s
Silk, Taslee	22s 6d to 28s 6d	18s 4d to 23s 6d
Rum	4s 5d to 4s 9d	3s 10d to 4s 4d
Sugar, B. P. yel. cwt	37s 6d to 42s	25s to 35s
Tallow, St. Pabg	54s 3d	52s 6d
Timber, Memel fir lb	65 1/2 to 85 1/2	57 1/2 to 85 1/2
Wool, English	21 1/2 to 22 1/2	19 1/2 to 20 1/2
Austral. combing	1s 6d to 2s 6d	1s 6d to 3s 10d
and clothing		

A few articles, such as tea, affected by the war in Canton, and wine affected by a bad vintage, were higher in price in November than in April, but in general there was a considerable reduction in prices, which tended downwards before the crash. Since that event they have generally continued to fall, and except sperm oil, every one of the articles mentioned as well as wheat, is considerably lower in price now than in last November. From such facts, then, we may be sure that in 1853 consumption had overtaken production, and continued to press on it till far into the year 1857. By that time the great rise in prices had everywhere begun to tell, production had been stimulated by them, and it had become equal, or more than equal, to consumption, and to restore the equilibrium, prices fell. With rising prices in 1853 and after the close of the war in 1856 and 1857, with high prices—and except of food with rising prices—till the summer of 1857, after which the crash came, trade expanded and was active. As long as prices continued to rise credit was good, and when similar circumstances return, we shall again have active trade, restored confidence, an increased demand for capital in actual business, and a tendency to decline in the value of securities.

Although in the long run the quantities of commodities annually produced, such as corn, wine, oil, iron, &c., determine all questions of relative cost and profit, these are always reckoned in money. If the great rise of price in 1853 had been the consequence exclusively of defective harvests, the rise in price would only have compensated the producers for the diminished quantity, and there would have been no increase of profit. On the contrary, the general rate of profit would have been lowered by the increased cost of an equal quantity of food. It was, however, the consequence of increased consumption and of increased means of paying for food, arising from the new wealth discovered on the shores of the Pacific, and the stimulus it had given to trade and manufacturing industry. Though the harvest of 1853 was not good, cultivation had been extended both at home and abroad, and the deficiency would not have occasioned such a rapid and extreme rise in price had not consumption been much extended. To produce the corn, wool, iron, oil, &c., which rose so much in price in 1853, had cost the farmers, graziers, ironmasters, &c., no more than it had cost them to produce the same articles in 1852. All the rise in the selling price of these commodities, which preceded any addition to the cost of producing them, increased the profit of the producers. There was then in 1852 and 1853 a very considerable increase in the profit of farmers, wool-growers, ironmasters, &c. Every tyro in political economy knows that the selling price of raw materials, compared to the cost of producing them, determines the general rate of profit, a rise in which accordingly ensued. The advantages of this were shared by all who held these commodities or dealt in them, as well as by the producers, and by all who contributed by their funds to carry on the business of society. Accordingly, the rate of discount, following the rise in the rate of profit, rose from 2 per cent. in June, 1852, to 5 per cent. in October, 1853; and the bulk of those who paid the increased rate of discount nevertheless made large gains. While prices were rising, trade was equally profitable and expansive.

In 1854 the war with Russia ensued, the declared value of our exports then declined nearly 2,000,000*l.*, and in 1855 an additional 1,500,000*l.* Our profitable industry suffered a partial declension, and the Governments of England, France, and Russia coming into the market as borrowers, made large demands on capital. The savings which might have nourished and extended profitable trade, were devoted to waste and destruction, and the credit as well as industry of the future were largely drawn on to supply present wants. The require-

ments of Government could not give on the whole, like the requirements of industry, an increase of profit, however much a few individuals might benefit by them, and they were followed by a fall in the rate of discount to 3 1/2 per cent. in June, 1855. Trade began to revive rapidly in the last months of that year. In the first seven months the falling off in the declared value of the exports, as compared to 1854, was 7,400,000*l.*, and the total declared value at the close of the year was only 1,500,000*l.* less than in 1854. In the last part of 1855, therefore, trade was more flourishing than in the last part of 1854; and while the relaxation of its demands on capital in the early part of the year had led to a fall in the rate of discount in spite of the demands of Government, its demands, combined with those of Government in the latter part of the year, raised the rate of discount in October to 6 per cent. There were no circumstances at that time similar to those of 1853 to cause a corresponding rise in the general rate of profit. More commodities, including all kinds of raw materials, were produced, but the cost of producing them, including increased taxation, had also increased keeping down the rate of profit, while the demand for capital or credit had become very great, and the rate of discount accordingly continued very high.

As the prices of commodities have fallen considerably since November, 1857, and continue to fall to this time, we may conclude that production has latterly again overtaken consumption, and we may also conclude that till this relation be altered, till consumption presses on production, and prices again begin to rise, and the rate of profit to increase, trade will not exhibit the activity of 1852-53 and 1856-57. But consumption is for ever increasing, and needs only small reductions in price to stimulate it. There is evidence in the increasing customs revenue that consumption is increasing, and as some taxation has been wisely remitted—we wish that more had been—the producing portion of the community have obtained increased power of consumption. We may now expect, then, that the demands for the production of raw materials will extend, that soon some rise of price will show itself without any immediate increase in the cost of production, that the rate of profit will accordingly improve and trade slowly expand. That there will be as great and as rapid expansion as in 1853 and 1856 is not to be expected, but many circumstances point to a speedy, though sober and continuous revival.

In the main it all depends on quantities. At present, the quantities of corn, cotton, wool, &c., at our command, are comparatively large, and our population is for ever increasing. Their customers are increasing too. Both Australia and the United States, which of late have taken comparatively little from us, are rapidly filling with industrious people who will need the produce of our industry, and will have the means to pay for it. Their demands are likely to increase and become greater than ever. There is also our new colony, with its new supplies of gold, asserted to be very large, and a probability of its population soon becoming a market for our goods equal to California or Australia. India will now, we may hope, be fully restored to peace, and from public attention having been directed by the disturbance to her grievances, we can only anticipate an extension of her prosperity. In the six months of the present year, for which we have the trade accounts, the declared value of the exports to India has increased, compared to that of 1857, as follows:—

DECLARED VALUE OF EXPORTS TO INDIA IN SIX MONTHS.

ARTICLES.	1857.	1858.
	£	£
Beer and ale	130,213	474,438
Cottons	3,116,869	4,523,849
" Yarn	540,576	967,532
Earthenware	23,521	43,975
Millinery and haberdashery	70,502	77,319
Hardware and cutlery	101,083	139,813
Saddlery	15,537	35,947
Machinery, steam-engines	54,074	59,104
Other sorts	313,461	170,959
Bar iron	430,856	579,925
Cast iron	111,411	101,381
Wrought iron	288,778	254,520
Copper	34,139	9,018
" sheet	228,325	318,381
Salt	31,119	21,849
Stationery	79,968	86,425
Woolens	166,509	202,076
Total	5,736,441	8,066,311

This is really an extraordinary table; the value of the cottons exported to India in the past six months of the present year is considerably more than one fourth of the total exports of cottons to all countries in the same period, 14,782,084*l.* Almost every article, too, is in excess in 1858 above 1856 as well as above 1857, while the total value of the exports to India in 1858 is nearly double the total in 1856, 2,554,976*l.* The exports to China are also increasing. The single article mentioned in the Board of Trade tables as sent to that country—cottons—has increased from 486,102*l.*, the declared value in the first six months of 1857, to 953,693*l.* in 1858. With this increase of trade with these old countries, while our trade with the United States and Australia is only suspended, and may be expected hereafter to extend even beyond its former proportions, what may we not expect in a future by no means remote?

At the same time the exchange with both these countries is becoming favourable, and if none of the silver lately sent thither returns, at least little or no more will go, and we shall keep the gold that comes in from all quarters instead of sending it abroad to buy silver to transmit to China and India. The gold will accumulate in the vaults of the Bank, and an abundance of capital will facilitate the extension of trade. The rate of profit will again increase, and again men will hurry into business.

We will conclude by observing, that in 1852 and 1853 there was an unusually large quantity of wealth to be shared by the producing and trading classes, and the bulk of those who had means tried to get a portion. Hence, at that period, fixed securities were proportionably much less sought after, and were less valuable than at present. Capital was devoted to production and to exchange the commodities produced. Numberless new trading firms started into existence, and old trading firms spread abroad all their sails. The circumstances were novel—there was in modern times nothing like the gold discoveries and their consequences, and wanting experience, it is not astonishing that many old and young houses went astray. The Leviathan was not launched at the first attempt, though force and resistance can be calculated and demonstrated; the Atlantic cable was not submerged at the first trial; and in every walk of life, especially in all that concerns administration, men only succeed effectually after many failures. In Germany, Norway, Sweden, &c., where the population is much less acquainted with trade, its hazards and its laws, than our people, the mistakes committed and the excess of credit taken were more glaring than here. Why should not trade and traders, then, have the benefit of a charitable construction of their faults; and in their case, as in those of other men, failures be sometimes, at least, attributed to defective experience, which time will remedy? Not merely such exciting events as the gold discoveries call new circumstances into existence and give every trader much to learn, but every new art or new discovery, every improvement in manufactures or in agriculture, which alters in any country the relative prices of commodities, give the trader something new to learn. Railways and telegraphs have effected greater alterations in the modes of carrying on the vast business of exchange, or commerce, than even the gold discoveries; and when so much that is new has to be continually learned in order to succeed, occasional and even great mistakes ought not to excite either astonishment or indignation.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Friday Evening.

With some exceptions, and more particularly in the iron and hardware branches, the trade of the country continues to present very satisfactory features. For all our manufacturing products there is a brisk and a growing demand, both for home and foreign consumption; and the increasing transactions of the country are shown by the larger traffic receipts for merchandise upon the leading lines of railway, particularly those running from the north to the various shipping ports in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Scotland. In a very short time this increased activity, if it continues, must tell upon the value of money; but at present the supply of capital is enormous, and there is a wholesome dread on the part of manufacturers and producers of paying heavy discounts. They are therefore restricting their credits, and, as far as possible, introducing cash transactions. This is a satisfactory tendency, and one that will prevent money rising to above its natural commercial value.

In Manchester, and throughout the districts of the cotton manufacture, there has been a considerable increase of business during the week, and there is less

complaint of profits being absorbed by the turns in the market for the raw material at Liverpool. Both yarns and cloths have been in more active demand. For some kinds of twist, spinners have been willing to take last week's prices; but in most descriptions $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. advance has been obtained. Cops have advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb., and mule yarn for India is $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. dearer. Indeed, the character of the Bombay letters received on Monday was such that numerous transactions were immediately entered into for India. Large purchases have also been made for the Mediterranean; and the German demand, the remarkable character of which was noticed last week, is not yet satisfied. Printing cloths and India and China shirtings are readily saleable at an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per piece. Long-cloths and T-cloths remain in good demand; madapollums and jaconets are also firmer. Generally speaking, the terms for manufactured goods are in favour of the producer, and they appear likely to continue so, inasmuch as the Foreign inquiry is increasing, while stocks at home are not materially in excess of the ordinary consumption. At today's market the same general features prevailed, and a very fair amount of business was transacted.

The sales of cotton at Liverpool during the week amount to 69,000 bales; by far the greater part has gone into consumption. Only 5500 were sold for export. Spinners have discovered that, in the present state of the market, combined with the accounts from the United States, no advantage is to be gained by waiting, and they have been content to pay $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. higher for their requirements.

The woollen trade in Leeds and the vicinity is still satisfactory, the factories being almost fully employed, while manufacturers have little difficulty in finding markets for their goods. The chief inquiry is from the home trade. Letters from the United States, however, lead to the expectation of large orders for woollen goods for that market in the course of a few weeks. Already there is a better demand for Canada and Australia, but the latter trade is not, at present, thought much of. At the market last Saturday, and again on Tuesday, transactions were not numerous, but full prices were obtained; and certainly as much business was done as is usual at the end of July and in the beginning of August. The flax trade is improving, but the scarcity and the high price of the raw material impede operations. The leather trade is springing into great importance in this town, and it is prosperous, and would be more so were the raw material accessible at more reasonable rates. The machine and locomotive manufactories are fully employed.

The worsted trade at Halifax is moderately active, and rather better prices are being obtained for Coburgs, Orleans, and other mixed goods, as well as for all-wool fabrics. Yarns are in good production at previous rates. The high price of wools is preventing accumulation of stocks either of yarns or goods, spinners and manufacturers buying only for immediate wants.

In Huddersfield the prospects of trade for the remainder of the year are good. At this week's market there has been an evident increase in the amount of business transacted. There has been a brisk demand for various descriptions of chevots, tweeds and twists in various colours and qualities, and few of these goods remain on hand. The cheviot trousersings are now being manufactured in low woollens and cotton warps at prices as low as 2s. 9d. and 3s., and these goods are a very close imitation of the goods in superior qualities usually sold at from 4s. 6d. to 6s. per yard. The shipping demand for low woollens and unions is gradually improving, and large quantities of mixture and check patterns in these goods are being readily sold, as also the six-quarter union mixtures for cloakings. The demand for black deskings continues steady and improving; more especially in the piece dyes at 8s. 6d. to 3s. 10d., and in wool dyes from 4s. 6d. to 6s. 9d. per yard. The superfine trade of this district is also progressing satisfactorily, and the demand is good for both black and coloured broadcloths. The sales of blue cloths in various shades for coach linings, liveries and uniforms have been larger this season than any previous one in recent years. Prices in all departments of trade in this market remain firm, and cheap lots of any kind are exceedingly few. The country trade continues quiet, the great bar to increased sales being still, we believe, the generally observed tendency of drapers and tailors to shuffle payment of due accounts. This serves to check effectually any inclination to press for an increase of orders, and acts prejudicially in many ways. Stocks of goods of all kinds in the Cloth-hall are not larger than usual for the season, having been considerably reduced during the last few weeks.

At Bradford some extensive orders have been received on Russian account, which must be completed before the frost sets in. Other orders on foreign account have been received to a large extent. The home trade is also more active. The staple trade of the district is therefore satisfactory, and the prospects of its improvement are more general and more decided than they were a fortnight or three weeks ago. Orleans and Coburg goods are in good demand. Business has increased in English wools, and the demands of the spinners have imparted firmness to prices, particularly of good bright-haired sorts. Manufacturers have in a great degree got over their recent struggles; and there is every reason to

anticipate that this season will remove all their difficulties. At the market yesterday the general tone and disposition was very good.

The Glasgow markets have been showing an improved feeling all the week.

From Nottingham and Leicester we hear that an average business is doing, plain goods being most in request.

Norwich manufactures are coming rapidly into notice again, a very favourable change having taken place in the course of the last fortnight. Both the mills in this town which spin yarns are in full operation, and there is a good demand for spun mohair for France and Germany, independent of that for home consumption.

The accounts from Belfast of the linen trade continue perfectly satisfactory. For handloom linens and manufatures there is a very good inquiry, especially for 4-4th light fabrics and the lower sets; and the tendency is towards higher prices. Diapers and drills are in small supply, without change in demand. In lawns more business doing at firm prices. Handkerchiefs still dull of sale. Goods for hollands and dyeing still sought after at full prices. As to power-loom makes the accounts are much the same. For drills there has been a better demand than for some time past, and stocks are decreasing. Heavy linens are in limited request, owing to the firmness of manufacturers, the cost of production having been increased by the advance on yarns. In light linens for bleaching a fair demand exists at steady rates. In cambrics and handkerchiefs there has been a moderate business. For lawns there was an improved sale, and stocks are decreased. Prices are still low and stocks decreasing. For roughs there has been a steady sale at an advance of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per yard. In unions there was more doing at a little better than late low rates. In white linens both the home and foreign trades are active, and prices are firm, owing to bleachers not being able to replace goods at former rates.

At Dundee the demand for yarns has not been so brisk as could be desired, but prices continue about the same. If anything they are rather firmer. In some descriptions of linens a good deal more business has been done. The flax market here is still showing an upward tendency, and a good deal of business has been done both in goods arrived and to arrive, at gradually improving prices. The demand is chiefly for the better descriptions, but common qualities are also sought for. The accounts from the foreign markets still show great firmness in the raw material. The quality of the new Archangel flax is stated to be very good. Fine tows are wanted, and jute is in fair demand.

The circulars issued by the leading silk brokers state that a large business has been done in silk during the past month, in which purchases for the Continent have materially assisted; the unsatisfactory prospect of the new crop, and consequent advance in prices of European silk, rendering the cost of China silk comparatively very moderate. Although higher rates have been paid in some instances for choice parcels, we cannot quote any general advance in the prices of China silk. Should the markets remain in the same relative position, we may fairly look for a continued good demand for export. The deliveries are the largest on record, being 8585 bales. Some small musters of the new silk had reached Shanghai, the quality of which is reported to be good, and the size rather finer than the old silk. In Bengal silk there has been more business done, the finest and best filatures being beneficially affected by the high prices of Italian silk. In Italian silk there has been a considerable improvement during the past month, every bale of thrown that arrives being readily taken at advanced rates.

The hardware trades are still extremely quiet. A few country orders are described as having been sent to Birmingham during the week, but they are small, as dealers are limiting themselves to bare additions of articles to stock, even of such as are in general use. The like spirit of caution is observable amongst consumers, who are contracting their purchases in every direction. In the agricultural districts business is very much suspended by harvest operations. This and other causes continue to exercise a chilling influence upon the home trade. As regards Birmingham, complaints of this nature have seldom been so general as they are at the present time, and that these are not without foundation is evidenced in various ways, all tending to their confirmation. The very slight degree of improvement which has been observable in some branches is attributable to a few foreign orders, the principal of those now on hand for export being for the north of Europe. In this branch of the foreign trade there is some degree of activity in completing orders for shipment whilst the navigation is open. The South African trade is also moderately good. The same may be said of the West India trade, the crops in that quarter having turned out favourably. In the adjoining district of South Staffordshire trade has not recovered to the slightest extent. At Wolverhampton, business has not been so dull for years as it is at the present time. The iron trade is without improvement. It is only best brands of finished iron for which there is any inquiry, and we see no immediate prospect of the trade becoming more brisk. That it will recover in time there can be no doubt; and it is better that the progress should be slow than that we should have a return of the artificial prosperity which characterised the trade for

twelve or fifteen months prior to the collapse which occurred last year. The quotations for best mine pigs have undergone no change, but very few sales have taken place this week. In Staffordshire there are no signs of immediate improvement. During the month of July things were worse than in June; but considerable orders are expected from South America and the continent of Europe.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE markets for established lines, and for lines in course of construction, have been very good all round. Last week we noticed the improving tone of the markets, and our anticipations of a rise has been confirmed by an upward movement generally in prices, and an increased *bond fide* demand on the part of the investing public. There can be no reasonable doubt of railway shares eventually taking the very first rank as permanent investments—ranking even before the public funds—because railways have a substantial foundation, and have the prospect of increasing dividends, while the funds rest upon nothing but public faith, and the interest is fixed. The only drawback against unlimited confidence in railways is the unsettled and contradictory condition of legislation which has special regard to railways. Parliament is at the root of all the distrust on the public mind, and all the positive mischief which has of late years been inflicted on railway interests. Next season something is to be done to remedy the existing discreditable condition of things; but we confess, looking at the composition of the committee, we have very little faith in anything being proposed which will really meet the mass of evils, absurdities, jobbing, and injudicious decisions, which have operated so disastrously on railway interests and railway progress. We shall, however, do the best in our power, from time to time, to point out the prominent evils of the present system, and to offer such suggestions as will, we think, meet the worst portions of the mischief.

There has been some fluctuation in the prices of the shares of several of the leading lines, owing to reports of reduced dividends; but the markets, after a slight depression, have resumed their original position, with a tendency to further improvement. Our reading of the markets is that a gradual and steady advance in railway shares will occur.

DIVIDENDS.—The Great Northern Railway Company officially announced at the rate of 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum on the original stock, and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d. on the B stock, towards the 6 per cent. for the year.

Bristol and Exeter Railway will be at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, against the same rate at the corresponding period of last year; and South Devon Railway stock at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum, against 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per cent. per annum last year.

Midland Railway Company officially announced at the rate of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, against the same rate for the corresponding six months of last year.

London and North-Western reported at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., but nothing known officially.

The London and Blackwall Railway Company recommend the payment of a half-yearly dividend of 2s. 9d. per share.

The dividend on the stock of the North London Railway Company is also officially announced at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, showing an increase of 1 per cent. over that declared for the corresponding six months of last year.

Indian shares have been in considerable request throughout the week, and several companies in progress have had their shares quoted at a premium. Higher prices are generally expected, especially in all the guaranteed lines.

Foreign shares were generally better, but there are very few buyers. Some of the French shares were quoted at a higher figure, but there is very little doing, and the public appear to distrust these securities.

American shares were in favour, and going up.

Great Western of Canada shares in demand.

The Cape Town Railway and Dock Company have at length concluded their arrangements with the colonial government, and have obtained a guarantee of six per cent. for fifty years. Interest at this rate will also, we are informed, be paid upon the company's capital during the progress of the works.

MINING INTELLIGENCE.

We have already stated that we deal with mines in doubt. The mining interest is one of the most important interests in the whole circle of our commercial relations, and yet so much mystification, misrepresentation, and unfair dealing is connected with mining operations in what is termed the mining market, that we feel reluctant to do more, hebdomadally, than to advert to alleged transactions and nominal prices as they come to us from the ordinary sources of information. The moneyed man, if he determine to try his fortune in mines, ought to take no step on his own judgment or information that may be communicated to him; his only security is to rely on the advice of respectable and experienced mining brokers, and not entirely on that. We shall make as

attempt at weeding the mining share list shortly, and when we have satisfied ourselves of the *bona fide* character of the mine, we shall place it in our list, and do our best to assist the curious public to what may be somewhere about the real value of the shares.

A great many mining projects are in abeyance because the moneyed public are presumed not to be sufficiently ripe for a deep dip into their purses, but very shortly we shall find these projects launched in shoals on the market, and then it will be our duty to raise our warning voice, which, we trust, will not be raised in vain.

A mining company, called the North Rhine Copper Company of South Australia, has put forward a prospectus. Of course the projectors assure the public that they have "secured one of the richest deposits of copper ever yet discovered." To the credulous public we commend the adage, *Caveat emptor*.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mining Lane, Friday Evening.

The week's transactions, although but moderate in the aggregate, still bear evidence of a healthy and progressive trade. A steady home-demand prevails for most of the leading staples, and a temporary restriction of business in some departments recently more active, is chiefly explained by the limited supplies brought on offer—a circumstance that has contributed to the stability of current values, and which in some measure may serve to show the confidence with which importers look towards the future. In exports, the improvement is as yet only partial, but appearances are more decidedly promising, and the want of animation which still forms a source of occasional complaint in most markets would seem to arise more from the protracted absence of speculation than from any retrograde movement in *bona fide* trading.

SUGAR.—The market continues very firm, and all descriptions are again 6d. to 1s. dearer. The supplies brought forward have consisted almost wholly of West India and foreign muscovades, the limited proportion of East India sugars in stock being generally withheld for higher prices. The deliveries, although not so large as had been expected, are satisfactory, and the stocks in warehouse, whilst somewhat increased, contrast less heavily with those of last year. Floating cargoes have met a rather increased demand, both for out-port and continental delivery, and several have changed hands on terms again in the seller's favour.

WEST INDIA.—The sales of the week are 4283 hogheads, including the auctions, in which low to fine bright Barbadoes sold at 36s. to 44s.; ord. to good brown Tobago 35s. to 37s. 6d.; and yellow 38s. to 40s. per cwt. **MAURITIUS.**—10,800 bags realised 30s. 0d. to 37s. 6d. for brown; and 39s. 6d. to 43s. for middling to fine yellow; grainy, 45s. to 49s. 6d.

FOREIGN.—2000 bags clayed Manila, 12s. 8d. duty, sold at 37s.; 1100 hogheads 660 barrels Porto Rico, at 40s. 6d. to 47s. for low to fine yellow, and 37s. to 38s. 6d. for brown; 190 casks 40 barrels Cuba muscovades were chiefly withdrawn above current rates; 1671 boxes Havannah were chiefly sold, florists (16s. duty) at 48s. to 49s. 6d.; low to fine yellow 41s. to 46s.; brown 38s. to 40s. Four floating cargoes Havannah, together 6000 boxes, have been taken for the kingdom; Nos. 11 to 12 at 28s. to 29s. full insurances; Nos. 13 to 14 at 45s., duty paid; one of 1500 boxes for Sweden at 31s. for No. 15; one brown Bahia at 25s. f.p.a. for an outpost, and one white at 29s. f.p.a. for Trieste.

MELADO.—475 casks Cuba were partly sold at 27s. to 36s., duty 12s. 8d.

REFINED.—Prices are very steadily maintained. Dried goods are rather less in demand generally, but pieces are still in request and tend upwards in price. Crashed sugars for export are held for higher terms.

MOLASSES.—With a continuous demand, quotations are again in favour of importers; West India have sold at 13s., 14s. for St. Kitt's up to 16s. for Antigua. In all about 1500 casks have been placed.

RUH.—The dealings are limited to small parcels at about previous rates.

COFFEE.—The landings have again been heavy, increasing the stock to 10,000 tons against 6000 tons last year. The market has a quiet tone, but sales are not pressed, and the demand has been sufficient to take off the limited supplies brought on offer without materially altering current quotations. The sales have comprised 800 casks Plantation Ceylon at 60s. 6d. to 65s. 6d. for fine ord. to low mid., and 68s. to 73s. for middling to good middling bold color; 155 half bales Mocha, at 80s., for clean garbled small berry, and 60s. for Alexandria kind, besides 10 casks 550 bags Jamaica at 44s. to 54s. for triage and ordinary.

COCOA.—Small transactions are reported at 50s. to 70s. for Trinidad. The inquiry is rather better.

TEA.—An improved demand, partly speculative, has obtained during the week, and with increased transactions the value of common and medium congous are enhanced ½d. to 1d. per lb.; for the former 10½d. is now freely offered, but holders generally require 10½d. Small public sales of 6756 pkgs. passed off with better spirit, at full prices for black, but easier rates for green

teas. Of the quantity put up, 2500 pkgs. sold, including 950 small boxes.

SPICES.—600 bags Zanzibar cloves sold at 8d. to 8½d., being a decline of ½d. per lb. Pimento is firm; of 1200 bags in auction, 800 were withdrawn above present rates, at which the residue sold; middling and good middling 3½d. to 3½d.; 370 bags Jamaica ginger sold steadily at 50s. to 75s. for common to middling; and 95s. to 141s. for good middling to good bold white. Of 2988 bags of Sumatra pepper, 700 sold at 4d. to 4½d. Important public sales are advertised for Wednesday.

Rice continues to be purchased for immediate orders only, but is steadily held. The principal dealings are some 3000 bags Bengal, at 8s. to 10s. per cwt.; 2000 bags low Rangoon, at 5s. 8d.; for fine white new Bengal 11s. 6d. was refused. The deliveries were tolerably good, and no further addition has been made to the stock.

SAGO, 752 c. good small grain, slightly discoloured, sold at 17s. per cwt.

SALTETRE.—Prices declined 1s. to 1s. 6d. in the early part of the week, but subsequently recovered on the announcement of a contract having been advertised by the French Government for 2200 tons, deliverable between this and the spring of the ensuing year. The sale aggregate about 9000 bags, and the latest prices were from 38s. for 11½ to 49s. for fine 2½ per cent. refraction.

NITRATE OF SODA.—A sale of 200 tons fine refraction, 4½d., as exported, at 17s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt.

COCHINEAL.—The market is firmer, with more limited supplies on offer.

GAMBIE.—Is again rather dearer.—15s. 6d. per cwt.

DRUGS.—Castor-oil has advanced ½d. per lb.; fair seconds to good pale, 6d. to 7½d.; straw, 5d. to 5½d. Other articles meet a fair demand at late rates. Camphor bought in at 60s. per cwt.

HEMP.—A limited business passing at former prices.

JUTE.—Is less in demand, and quotations barely so firm. Of 3219 bales, about half sold, at 15½s. to 19½s. 12s. 6d. for common to good, assorted.

METALS.—Scotch pig iron advanced to 54s. 6d., but the improvement brought out sellers, and prices are now 6d. lower; the deliveries are very satisfactory. Other metals are without quotable change.

LIASEED.—The trade is quiet, but prices steady. Bombay seed, 61s. to 61s. 6d.; Calcutta, 57s. to 59s.; Black Sea seed, on passage, 59s.

OL.—Linseed is offered at 34s. 3d. on the spot, and 34s. 6d. to 34s. 9d. for delivery forward; Olive is going more freely into consumption, at 43s. for Mogadore to 46s. for Gallipoli. For arrival, large supplies are offered on these terms. Palm oil is more saleable at 38s. for fine; Sperm slightly dearer; common fish oil unaltered.

TURPENTINE.—Rough turpentine is purchased at 9s. 3d. The large supplies of American spirits are firmly held at 38s. 6d. per cwt.

SAFFLOWER.—Is 10s. dearer; 133 bales sold at 5½ to 8½ 10s.; redwood sold at 4½s. to 4½ 10s., which is also higher.

COTTON.—There are not free sellers at present rates. Week's business, 950 bales; Suret, 5½d. to 6d. for mid. fair to good; Madras, 4½d. for ordinary western, and 5½d. for good fair Tinnerly. At Liverpool, the week's sales are 69,000 bales, prices ½d. higher; and imports 26,000 bales.

WOOL.—The Colonial sales progress actively, at full prices. 14,666 bales sold in the current week.

PROVISIONS.—From short receipts, butters of all descriptions are dearer. Carlow, 104s. to 108s.; English, 112s. to 120s.; and Friesland, 114s. to 116s. per cwt. With increased supplies of English and foreign bacon, prices are 1s. to 2s. lower, and Waterford quoted 68s. to 70s. The Government advertise for considerable quantities of navy beef and pork: 7000 tierces 10,250 barrels of the former, and 15,000 tierces 7700 barrels of the latter, are to be tendered for on the 30th September. The market is, however, scarcely influenced by the circumstance, so little is passing.

TALLOW has met a good demand for consumption, but the purchases have been principally of old Y. C. at about 6d. under current quotations for new, which close to-day at 48s. 6d. on the spot, 49s. buyers for the last three months, and 49s. 6d. for spring delivery. The public sales have been unimportant. The latest telegram from St. Petersburg quotes, "156 ro. for August, flat; 17,700 cks. shipped off, and 19,000 cks. on wharf."

MARKET LETTER.—Town tallow, 50s.; fat by ditto, 2s. 7d.; melted stuff, 34s. 6d.; rough, ditto, 20s.; greaves ditto, 17s.; good drags ditto, 7s.

JOSEPH TRAVERS AND SONS' WEEKLY CIRCULAR.

19, St. Swithin's-lane.

TEA.—The market is very firm, and for the lower grades of Congou some improvement in value must be noted. Common has realised 10½d. The arrival of the next telegram is looked for with interest, and in the mean time merchants are very tenacious, and hold for better offers.

COFFEE.—There has not been quite so much animation in this market for the past week, but prices remain firm for all descriptions.

SUGAR.—Raw—we have again to report a further

improvement in the value of this article, an active market having prevailed during the week, and its close showing an advance of 1s. on all qualities. We are sorry so often to receive well-founded complaints of the bad turn-out of raw sugars, the result, we believe, of an improper method of drawing the samples in the docks, over which process we have no control whatever. It is with great regret that we see sugars, which, from their superior sweetness, flavour, and colour, deserve the first attention and the best price, gradually losing their place in the opinion of the trade, who find it answer their purpose better to buy from samples affording a more correct representation of bulk, and who, therefore, turn their attention more and more to bastards and pieces. We cannot but think, however, that this evil must work its own cure, and believe it will not be long before those who are responsible for it will find out some method by which the samples shall represent their bulk faithfully instead of approximately. Till this change takes place, we must remind our customers that we can only sell to them by the sample we buy from, and that, unless the inferiority is very marked indeed, there is no possibility of obtaining any allowance whatever.

The REFINED market has been very quiet during the past week, brown sorts being, perhaps, rather easier to buy. Pieces relatively dear, and very scarce. Bastards plentiful at former prices. Molasses without change.

FRUIT. as usual at this period of the year, is in limited request, and the business of the week has been pretty nearly confined to a few purchases of currants for export. The advices from abroad are also of a routine character—large crops, fine quality, and low prices, to be modified, doubtless shortly, when orders for shipment are sufficiently plentiful, by the usual occurrences of bad weather, growing competition, and increasing firmness on the part of obstinate growers. There can, be, however, but little doubt, that the supplies of both currants and Valencias will be plentiful, although we much doubt if opening prices can be very low. The interests of the large importers of currants are certainly opposed to the arrival of new fruit in our markets at prices which can affect our present stock; and with half a dozen steamers and a cloud of sailing vessels engaged for first cargoes, the growers of Valencias will hardly be more reasonable in their demands than in former seasons.

SPICES.—Jamaica ginger, at public sale, met with good competition, the fine sorts realising higher prices. Black pepper is dull, and rather cheaper. Petre is very firm, and 1s. dearer.

RICE.—No alteration in prices. Meal and low rice is in good demand at firm rates. Fine Java scarce.

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK EXCHANGE.

CITY, Friday Evening.

It is very gratifying to be able to announce that all the information supplied to us from various important channels points to a decided improvement in the condition of trade and commerce, and that, though comparatively few foreign orders have been sent here, there is yet a fair amount of export business doing, and business generally is of a more than usually sound and legitimate character. The home trade is gradually recovering from the paralysis of last year, and autumn is looked forward to with hope and confidence.

But there is still a danger the far-seeing deserv at hand. The discovery of rich gold fields in Vancouver's Island is a danger which, if we do not take past experience for our guide and monitor, may help to renew that insane and general *fièvre* of speculation which took place in 1852-3, when the Australian discoveries began to work their commercial mischief, and brought upon us that woeful and ruinous reaction which occurred in 1854-5. We do not share these fears, though we admit they are by no means unfounded. We look to the more sober feeling which the late crisis has per force induced upon Joint-Stock Banks and discount houses. These great monetary establishments will pause before they again give facilities to speculation by the easy discount of manufactured paper and rotten accommodation bills. The refusal of discounts, except for the legitimate purposes of trade, will act as a marvellous check on the speculator. The mercantile public also feel confident that the Bank of England will continue to act on that judicious system inaugurated during the crisis which has tended so largely to purify the mercantile atmosphere and to replace trade upon its legitimate basis. The hint which the Bank gave to speculators when it declined to make advances, except in cases where there could be no doubt of the *bona fide* character of the purposes for which assistance was required, has not been without effect and permanence. It seems to be generally admitted that it is mainly owing to the wise policy adopted by the Bank that we are not at this moment immersed in a very whirlpool of speculation. Money is in remarkable abundance; idle capital is seeking temporary investment, even at nominal rates of interest; the rate of accommodation is unusually low; all these

circumstances combine to foster speculation, but still there is no sign of undue excitement—the public continue sober-minded, and schemers are for the present baffled and invisible.

The applications to the Bank during the week have been on the increase, and their general character has been such as to warrant the assertion that trade is reviving.

Gold has come into the country largely; about three quarters of a million are reported on the way, and very soon we shall have to record consignments of the precious metals from the new and productive channel recently opened up.

The position of the Indian finances appears to be, under the Eight Million Loan Act, that there is still authority to raise a sum of 3,579,000*l.* The power of issuing India Bonds may also be made available to the extent of 2,789,500*l.* These two sums make 6,368,500*l.*, which exceeds by nearly 1,200,000*l.* the estimated disbursements of the Home Treasury up to the 31st January next, in excess of the present cash balance. Amongst the assets available in aid of the Home Treasury are, in addition, 1,598,000*l.* in Exchequer Bills and Bonds now in hand; and no account has been taken of receipts from the railway companies. It follows from this statement that for six months to come there will be no question of further pecuniary resources.

The 3,579,000*l.*, which forms the balance of the Indian Four per Cent. Eight Million loan, is now submitted for public competition. It will, therefore, suffice to mention here that the latest period allowed for receiving tenders is noon on the 17th inst. The debentures, it will be remembered, have five years to run. So much of the amount tendered is to be paid on the 23rd inst. as will leave 75 per cent. to be paid in three instalments of 25 per cent., or 894,750*l.* each, on the 20th Sept., 18th October, and 15th Nov. But it will be remarked with satisfaction that tenders will be received for as small a sum as 1000*l.*, instead of 5000*l.*, as upon the former occasion.

The next instalment of 15 per cent., making 85 per cent. paid, falls due on the Indian Four per Cent. Loan on Tuesday next, the 10th inst., and the final instalment on the 10th of September.

A call of 2*l.* per share is to be paid by the 7th inst. by the contributories of the Justice Assurance Society.

At a meeting of the London Life Association to-day it was resolved not to pay the sum of 4217*l.*, in addition to 782*l.* already paid, on a policy of assurance for 5000*l.* on the life of the late John Sadler.

On the 9th instant a call of 10*l.* per share on the contributories of the London and County Assurance Company will be made.

The Atlantic Telegraph Cable, despite the immense difficulties encountered, has at length been successfully laid. The price of the company's shares, as a matter of course, experienced an immediate and great rebound. The nearest quotation was 880*l.* to 920*l.* per 1000*l.* share. The previous day 350*l.* was scarcely obtainable.

The new act referring to crossed cheques received the royal assent. Clause 1 provides that if a cheque be issued crossed with the name of a banker, the crossing shall not be altered, obliterated, or added to in any way; but shall be deemed a material part of the cheque, and the cheque shall be paid only to the banker with whose name it is crossed. Clause 2 enacts that if a cheque be issued uncrossed, or crossed with the words "and Co.," any lawful holder may add thereto the name of any banker, and such crossing shall be deemed a material part of the cheque. Clause 3 is penal, and provides that any person fraudulently altering the crossing on a cheque, or uttering the cheque knowing it to have been fraudulently altered, shall be held guilty of felony. Clause 4 exempts bankers from responsibility if they innocently pay a cheque from which the crossing has been erased, provided that no signs are visible that a crossing was ever there. Considerable inconvenience is apprehended as regards cheques drawn on London bankers, but crossed to country bankers. The latter would receive the amount through their London agents, but clause 1 makes no provision for this case, declaring that the cheque must only be paid to the banker with whose name it is crossed.

The shares in the Red Sea and India Telegraph Company touched 3 to 3*l.* prem. The applications are stated to be already very large.

The scrip of the Great Southern of India Railway Company was quoted to-day 3-16 to 5-16 prem. This company have already obtained a guarantee of 5 per cent. from the Indian Government.

Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, and Co., a highly respectable firm in the Honduras trade, have stopped payment.

CITY, Six o'clock.

The latest quotation for Consols is 96 1/4, both for money and account.

THE NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM DISTRICT BANK.—The Vice-Chancellors' Court has approved of the arrangement by which the Derwent Iron Works pass into the hands of some of the shareholders of the District Bank. The particulars of the arrangement may be described as follows:—Fifty-four shareholders purchase the works, collieries, and houses for the workmen, for 930,000*l.* The payments will thus be made:—175,000*l.*, cash; 84,500*l.*, six months; 96,500*l.*,

twelve ditto; 103,500*l.*, eighteen ditto; 191,500*l.*, twenty-four ditto; 41,000*l.*, thirty ditto; 129,000*l.*, thirty-six ditto; 14,000*l.*, forty-two ditto; 47,500*l.*, forty-eight ditto; 47,500*l.*, sixty ditto—930,000*l.* Add 36,831*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* already made by the same parties in respect of the 5*l.* call, prior to Mr. Coleman's report, making a total of 966,831*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* Fifty-three shareholders have, consequently, been removed from the list of contributors to the Northumberland and Durham District Bank.

JOINT-STOCK BANKS AND COMPANIES.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.

On Thursday the proprietors of this bank held their half-yearly meeting. More than common interest attached to the meeting of this bank, not only on account of the injurious and unfounded rumours set afloat by interested parties against this among other joint-stock banks, but because of the wide and special field over which its transactions extend. A joint-stock bank that has, besides its central bank in the metropolis, a series of fifty or sixty dependent branches spread over the country, would naturally feel a financial crisis more sensibly than joint-stock banks which have little beyond their metropolitan branches to defend. It might therefore be expected that the collapse which occurred in the commercial world, and which tried the soundest monetary establishments most severely, and prostrated even solvent firms, would be felt with augmented pressure by such an institution as the London and County Bank. We have, however, the materials at hand to enable us to form a correct opinion of the actual effect of the crisis on the interests of this bank, and its capability of sustaining such recurring financial shocks for the future.

The report laid before the proprietors may be described, without exaggeration, as highly satisfactory and assuring. The bank has not only weathered the crisis without substantial injury, but has actually been able to strengthen its financial position most materially, giving thereby the best and most direct contradiction of any surmises that might have been ventured upon to its prejudice. The profits for the half-year amount to 94,270*l.*; after making provision for bad debts, and adding the balance from last account, a gross sum of 101,664*l.* is obtained for the purposes of the bank. Out of this sum 24,000*l.* is paid in the shape of interest to depositors and customers, 43,000*l.* for salaries, &c., 25,000*l.* for 5 per cent. dividend for half-year, making a total of 10 per cent. yearly, and 5000*l.* for rebate on bills not due and balance carried forward. This is a very good statement, but it by no means exhausts the favourable features brought under the notice of the proprietors. The reserve fund has been augmented by 5000*l.*, and now stands at 105,000*l.* A large number of new accounts have been opened—about 440—and the total number is now 22,550. The customers' balances have increased by the sum of 650,000*l.*, out of which amount very trifling or no interest is paid on no less a sum than 600,000*l.* It appears that fewer applications for discount accommodation by customers, as might be expected, have been made this half-year, and this places half a million more of cash in hand, and at call, than was the case at the close of the previous six months. On a review of all the circumstances, it would appear that the greatest care and caution has been exercised by the executive of the banks, that while no proper commercial accommodation has been withheld, no encouragement has been given to anything that bore remotely the character of speculation. The position of the London and County Bank is most satisfactory, but this character could only have been earned by the sound judgment and supervision of the chief manager, Mr. M'Kewan, and the managers of the numerous branches connected with the bank.

THE BANK OF LONDON.

On Tuesday the proprietors were called together to receive the half-yearly report. Of course, the more recently established banks are those on which attention is more particularly fixed, in consequence of the peculiar and trying period through which they have had to pass during the past half-year. It is very satisfactory to have to record that this bank has materially extended its connexions, that though commerce has been everywhere more than unusually inactive, yet the operations of the bank have been both sound and profitable. The sum of 21,631*l.* stands to the credit of profit for the past six months, out of which sum, after providing for certain expenses, the directors were enabled to declare a dividend of 5*l.* per cent. and to carry over a small sum to the next half-year, after adding 3500*l.* to the reserve fund. The chairman, in a lucid speech, pointed out the most encouraging features of the report. The current accounts—the most profitable part of banking business—had increased; the deposit account had decreased—a matter for congratulation more than otherwise under the existing circumstances of

the commercial world. The chairman called on the proprietors to bring all the accounts they could to the bank—a very proper call, and one which, if the proprietors understand their true interests, they will not be slow in responding to. The proceedings wound up with a cordial vote of thanks to the manager, Mr. Marshall, and other officers—a vote that appeared to have been well merited when the progressive and sound condition of this new bank is taken into consideration.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, August 3.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—SAMUEL TROUCE, Bristol, provision merchant.

BANKRUPTS.—LOUIS LICHTENSTEIN, Wood-street, Cheapside, merchant—WILLIAM ELLERY WHALEY, and WILLIAM JOHN HILLSTEAD, Wood-street, Cheapside, warehouseman—SIDNEY HODGKINSON, Queenhithe, and Albion-terrace, Peckham, wholesale stationer and commission agent—JOHN DERRICK AYRES, and DAVID M'HAFFIE MELLIS, Nottingham, and New York merchants—JOHN MILLER, Newcastle-under-Lyne, travelling draper—JAMES BATE, Birmingham, innkeeper—THOMAS GRAYES, and HENRY WILKINSON, Leamington Priory, Warwickshire, plumbers—SAMUEL STUART, Wednesbury, Staffordshire, grocer—JAMES GILLHAM, Exeter, boot and shoe maker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—C. A. CURWOOD, Salom, Argyllshire—J. COLVILLE, Stirling, carpet manufacturer—G. GARDEN, Broughton Ferry, grocer—J. and W. M'KENZIE, Glasgow, builders—J. STEPHENSON, Glasgow, oil and colour merchant—J. and J. GOW, Dryden, Mains, Edinburgh, farmers—J. SMITH, Glasgow, manufacturer.

Friday, August 6.

BANKRUPTS.—CHARLES WALTER, High-street, Marylebone, pawnbroker—JOHN PRESTON, Spalding, Lincolnshire, jeweller—GEORGE CORNFIELD WILLIAMS, North-Heysey, dealer—GEORGE MELLOR and JAMES THREAS, Manchester, joiners—WILLIAM SUTTON, Yorkhill, Staffordshire, grocer—CHARLES WALTON and WILLIAM WALTON, Gracechurch-street, City, ship owners—JOHN KING WESTROP, Staining-lane, City, glove manufacturer—JOHN BOWERS SMITH, Rugby, Warwick, baker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—JOHN MENZIES, Glasgow, gardener—WILLIAM GILL, sometime residing at Park Villas, Richmond—ROWLAND MUCKLETON, sometime dealer, Stratford-place, London—JAMES NAUGHTON, Dundee, brewer.

THE NEW TRANSATLANTIC PACKET STATION.—A deputation of Members of Parliament, merchants, ship-owners, and others interested in the Transatlantic trade, and also in the prosperity of the town and harbour of Galway, waited upon the First Lord of the Treasury, at his official residence in Downing-street, on Wednesday, for the purpose of bringing under the notice of the Government the national importance of forming a secure and convenient harbour at Galway for large American steamships, and, with that view, to construct a break-water and pier, at a cost of 152,000*l.* After a good deal of conversation, Lord Derby said:—"I cannot, of course, give you a reply without consulting with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and my other colleagues. It is, however, a principle of the Government to help those who help themselves, and I am bound to say that you have done something in that direction. I will only now add that it is not improbable that the Government may be disposed to co-operate with the town of Galway to some extent; but to what extent I cannot say until I speak to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and until we see how the project of a Western packet station is likely to succeed."

A NUISANCE IN THE GREEN AND ST. JAMES'S PARKS.—Lord Palmerston, on the last morning of the session, as will be seen in another column, called attention to the annoyance caused in the Green Park and St. James's Park by the constant presence of iron hurdles debarring people from walking on the grass. The nuisance undoubtedly is great; but the House was told it would be removed in time. There is another nuisance, however, still greater, which we fear will not be removed within the life of any of us. We allude to the perpetual whine of the bagpipes blown before the troops of the Scots Fusilier Guards who for some months past have been stationed at the Wellington Barracks in Birdcage-walk. Formerly, the regiments were changed, and the frequent of the two Westminster parks had a little temporary relief from this anguish; now, the Scotchmen are for ever about the precincts of the Royal palaces. We say nothing of the slight thus put on English regiments, for her Majesty has accustomed us to give way to the children of the North, and, if the "Southrons" ever objected, they have probably by this time got familiarised to a state of things which would have astonished them in former days; but, at any rate, let our ears be spared. We have never yet met an Englishman who liked the bagpipes. It was a mistake to put those kilted musicians at the head of a regiment which, though partially Scotch, is not essentially Highland; but, if what is done cannot be undone, the Fusiliers might at least be sent, with their beloved music, to garrison some town north of the Tweed.

SIR HUGH ROSE.—Tuesday night's *Gazette* contains a general order which has been issued by the Governor-General of India, expressing his high gratification at the recapture of the town and fort of Gwalior by Sir Hugh Rose, and ordering, as a mark of his appreciation of the Maharajah's friendship, that a Royal salute in honour of the event shall be fired at every principal station in India.

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.				Name of Company.				Name of Company.			
No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	London.	T.	P.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	T.	P.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.
44543	12	10	Ambergate, &c.	64	64	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
Stock	100	100	Birkenhead, Lancashire, and	68	71	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Cheshire Junction.	93	94	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Cristal and Exeter	791	801	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Caledonian	40	40	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Chester and Holyhead	4077	121	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Cork and Bandon	11136	20	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Dublin and Belfast Junction	17	17	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			East Anglian	63	63	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Eastern Counties	47	47	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Eastern Union, class A	33	33	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— class B	33	33	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			New A. late E. U. Thirds	15	15	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			East Kent	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			East Lancashire	64	64	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Edinburgh and Glasgow	264	264	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee	102	104	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Great Northern	83	83	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— A stock	133	133	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— B stock	185	185	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Great Southern and Western (L.)	494	50	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Great Western	90	90	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Lancashire and Carlisle	13	13	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— Thirds	13	13	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— New Thirds	13	13	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Lancashire and Yorkshire	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— F. 1st	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— F. 2nd	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			London and Blackwall	64	64	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			London, Brighton, and South C.	109	109	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			London and North-Western	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— Rights	1	1	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			London and South-Western	96	96	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Londonderry and Coleraine	64	64	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Londonderry and Enniskillen	32	32	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln	1	1	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Metropolitan	94	94	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Midland	67	67	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Midland Great Western (L.)	2090	50	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Newport, Abr., and Hereford	22320	25	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Norfolk	6080	50	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			North Counties Union	3	3	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			North British	53	53	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			North-Eastern—Berwick	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— G. N. E. Purchase	1	1	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— Leeds	47	47	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— York	75	75	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			North Devon	99	99	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			North Staffordshire	24	24	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Oxford, Worcester, and Wolyn.	28	28	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Scottish Central	112	112	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Scottish N. Eastern Aberdeen Stk.	264	274	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— Scottish Midland Stock	83	83	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Shropshire Union	47	47	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			South Eastern	364	36	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			South Wales	811	82	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			South Yorkshire and River Dun.	15	15	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Do. do.	4	4	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Val of Neath	101	101	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Waterford and Kilkenny	93	93	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			Waterford and Limerick	20900	10	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			West Cornwall	20654	20	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			— Lines Leased	102	105	Stock	100	100	100	100	100
			AT FIXED RENTALS.								
			Buckinghamshire	102	105	Stock	100	100	100	100	100

ENGLISH STOCKS.				Fri.			
No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.
Bank Stock, div. 5 p. c. 1 year.	227	Do. do. Scrip	..	..	..	Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent.	1024
3 per ct. Reduced	971	Do. Bonds, 4 per cent, 1000L.	..	..	..	Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent.	..
— Ditto for Opening	..	— under 500L.	..	..	..	— Ditto 4 p. cent. 1858.	..
3 percent. Consols Anns.	964*	Bank Stock for account Aug. 3	..	..	..	— Ditto 5 per cent, 1829 and 1839	..
— Ditto for Opening	..	3 p. ct. Cons. for account do	..	..	..	— Ditto 5 per cent, 1843	..
New 3 per cent. Anns.	97	— Ditto for Opening do	..	..	..	— Ditto 4 p. cent, 1858	..
— Ditto for Opening	..	India Stock, for account do	..	..	..	Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per cent.	..
New 4 p. cent. Anns.	..	Exchequer Bills, 2d. and 1 1/2 p. day	..	..	..	— Ditto Deferred 3 per cent.	..
New 2 1/2 per cent. Anns.	..	— Ditto 1000L.	..	..	..	Chilian Bonds, 6 per cent.	..
5 per cent.	..	— Ditto 500L.	..	..	..	— Ditto 3 per cent.	..
Long Anns. Jan. 5, 1860.	..	— Ditto Small	..	..	..	Danish Bonds, 3 per cent., 1825	..
Anns. for 30 years, Oct. 10, 1859	..	— Ditto Advertised 1 1/2	..	..	..	— Ditto 5 per cent. Bonds	..
— Ditto exp. Jan. 5, 1860	..	— Ditto Bonds, A 1834 3 p. ct.	..	..	..	Dutch 2 1/2 p. c. Exchange 12 Guilders	..
— Ditto Jan. 5, 1859	..	— Ditto under 1000L.	..	..	..	Grenada Bonds, New Active, 2 1/2 p. c.	..
— Ditto April 5, 1858	..	— Ditto B 1859	..	..	..	— Ditto Deferred	..
India Stock, 104 per cent.	220*	— Ditto under 1000	..	..	..	Guatemala	..
Do. Loan Debentures	984	..	..	..	..	Mexican 3 per cent.	..

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

FOREIGN STOCKS.				Fri.			
No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.
Russian Bonds, 1822, 5 p. ct. in 2d. st.	..	— Ditto 4 p. cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 4 p. cent.	..	Sardinian Bonds, 5 per cent.	..	..	..	..	..
Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent.	..	— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	— Ditto Passive Bonds	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	— Ditto Com. Cert. of Coupon not fd.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	— Ditto 4 per cent. Guaranteed	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	Venezuela 5 per cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	— Ditto Deferred 2 per cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	[Divs. on above payable in London.]	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	Belgian Bonds 4 p. cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	Dutch 2 1/2 p. c. Exchange 12 Guilders	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	— Ditto 4 per cent. Certificates	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	Peruvian Dollar Bonds	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	PARIS.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	French Rentes, 4 p. cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	— Ditto 3 per cent.	..	..	..	..	..
— Ditto 3 per cent. Deferred	..	Western and N.-W. of France	..	..	..	..	..

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.				No. of Shares.			
No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.
22500	20 p. cent.	Australasia	..	..	..	20000	6 p. cent.
10000	6 p. cent.	Bank of Egypt	..	..	..	25000	20 p. cent.
8000	5 p. cent.	Bank of London	..	..	..	50400	12 p. cent.
29000	6 p. cent.	British North American	..	..	..	25000	..
32300	5 p. cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China	..	..	..	20000	14 p. cent.
4500	5 p. cent.	City Bank	..	..	..	4000	14 p. cent.
20000	6 p. cent.	Colonial	..	..	..	12000	5 p. cent.
25000	6 p. cent.	Commercial of London	..	..	..	12000	12 p. cent.
35000	6 p. cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	..	..	..	4000	..
20000	12 p. cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	..	..	..	32000	19 p. cent.
20000	12 p. cent.	London and County	..	..	..	8000	20 p. cent.
20000	12 p. cent.	London Joint Stock	..	..	..	100000	..
10000	14 p. cent.	London and Westminster	..	..	..	60000	15 p. cent.
25000	16 p. cent.	National Provincial of England	..	..	..	3000	3 p. cent.
25000	16 p. cent.	— Ditto New	..	..	..	4000	3 p. cent.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.				No. of Shares.			
No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.
20000	6 p. cent.	National Bank	..	..	..	50	25 p. cent.
25000	20 p. cent.	New South Wales	..	..	..	20	20 p. cent.
50400	12 p. cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	..	..	..	25	25 p. cent.
25000	..	Ottoman Bank	..	..	..	20	20 p. cent.
20000	14 p. cent.	Provincial of Ireland	..	..	..	100	25 p. cent.
4000	14 p. cent.	— Ditto New	..	..	..	10	10 p. cent.
12000	5 p. cent.	Ionian Bank	..	..	..	25	25 p. cent.
12000	12 p. cent.	South Australia	..	..	..	25	25 p. cent.
4000	..	— Ditto New	..	..	..	25	12 p. cent.
32000	19 p. cent.	Union of Australia	..	..	..	25	25 p. cent.
8000	20 p. cent.	— Ditto New	..	..	..	10	10 p. cent.
100000	..	Union of Hamburg	..	..	..	15	3 p. cent.
60000	15 p. cent.	Union of London	..	..	..	50	10 p. cent.
3000	3 p. cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	..	..	..	100	50 p. cent.
4000	3 p. cent.	Western of London	..	..	..	100	50 p. cent.

DEATH.

Come when thou wilt, cold anodyne,
I fear thee not;
Let all these hopes and dreams of mine
Be lost, forgot.
Life hath been too unkind to me
For years and years;
I give her broken toys to thee—
Her bitter tears.
Quench both those tears and still that heart,
What matter then?
Is it so hard a thing to part
With light and men?
Life bound me hand and foot a slave,
Her fetters rust;
Better the freedom of the grave—
Mix dust with dust.

N.

CITY HOUSES.—Amid the general demolition of the City now in progress, there is one cause which contributes to it and will accelerate it which has received little attention; and that is the fact that many of the houses built after the great fire of 1666—that is to say a great part of the City—are in a very dilapidated condition. The public buildings of that date are mostly solid and good enough, and particularly those designed or superintended by Wren; but some of the companies' halls—as the Weavers', pulled down last year—were vamped up of rubbish. Some of the mansions in the City are well and solidly built, but a very great many houses were run up after the fire with whatever material could be got, and are very ill-constructed too. The joinery is often of bad timber and very ill done by inferior hands, workmen being got together from all the country parts and from Holland also. These houses have now stood nearly two hundred years, and have suffered various vicissitudes, not among the least having been the sewer and drainage operations, which have sapped their foundations and affected their bearings. Then there have been fires in adjoining houses, or the demolition of adjoining houses—a test very unwelcome to a weak and ill-constructed house. Within the house, the rat, the mouse, and the worm have been at work operating on the timbers, and an occasional leak, or the overflow of a closet, have all had their share in the long lapse of time in weakening the houses; nor must we omit the jobbing bricklayer or Irish labourer, brought in to do some cheap repair and effecting no small mischief. Even good houses cannot bear these injuries without suffering, but it is a miracle how some of the cheaper houses, run up after the fire, have stood, and in a less wealthy population they would be in a most dilapidated state. All the houses before the fire bear the date of not less than two centuries, and some have their three or four centuries to account for, and the sewers have been no friends to them; but the lowness of their floors is now felt as such an inconvenience that they are generally out of favour, so that, whenever a chance offers, the old houses share the fate of their later brethren, and are pulled down. Sometimes, under the present system of large offices and warehouses, an additional house is annexed at a good price, and whenever the temptation of putting up a large block of offices presents itself, the landlord is likewise tempted to rebuild.—*Building News.*

A MODERN NIMROD.—The late Sir R. Sutton, Bart., killed in seventeen years, from 1828 to 1845, the following enormous quantity of game:—Grouse, 3467; pheasants, 12,774; partridges, 22,795; hares, 7829; rabbits, 4483; woodcocks, 182; snipes, 165; wild ducks, 35; quails, 14; landrails, 4; plovers, 4; doitrrels, 4. Total 51,765.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM.
3, Tichborne-street, opposite the Haymarket, OPEN DAILY (for Gentlemen only). LECTURES by Dr. KAHN at 4, and by Dr. SEXTON at 4 and 5 o'clock on important and interesting topics in connection with ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY (vide Programme). Admission, 1s.—Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free, direct from the Author, on the receipt of 12 stamps.

TO INVALIDS, Merchants, and others.—The PATENT ALBERT PORTABLE LOUNGING CHAIR, the most luxurious and cheapest ever manufactured. Self-propelling. Bath, Brighton, and every other description of chair for in and out-door use. Mechanical chairs and beds of every description, perambulators, &c. (the largest assortment in the world), always on hand for sale or hire. Agents:—Messrs. Smith, Taylor, and Co., Bombay, Batavia, Singapore, and Samarang; Messrs. F. W. Brownie and Co., Calcutta. Sole patentee and manufacturer, J. WARD, 5 and 6, Leicester-square, W.C. Established 30 years.

TO THE NERVOUS AND DEBILITATED.
—CHARLES WATSON, M.D., Fellow and Honorary Vice-President of the Imperial African Institute of France, Corres. Member of the Medical Societies of Rouen and Peru, &c., and Resident Physician to the Bedford Dispensary, 37, Alfred-place, Bedford-square, London, continues to issue, on receipt of six stamps, "THE GUIDE TO SELF-CURE."

"Those about entering the Marriage State should peruse Dr. Watson's invaluable little work, as the advice he gives on health and disease reflects much credit upon him as a sound medical philosopher."—*Critic.*

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SOUTH AFRICAN PORT and SHERRY,

2s. a dozen; very superior, 2s. a dozen.
R. WILLIAMS, Importer, 112, Bishopsgate-street, London, quotes the following extracts of letters addressed to him—originals at his counting-house:—
From a Nobleman:—"The sample of Sherry Lord S. approves."
From an eminent literary Gentleman:—"July 16, 1885. Mr. — is much pleased with the Sherry."
From a Clergyman:—"July 17, 1885. We like your wine so much that we have mentioned it to several persons."
From Major-General:—"July 21, 1885. Sir,—I very much approve of your South African Sherry; as I require wine, I shall write for more wherever I may go."
Delivered free to any London Railway Terminus.
H. R. WILLIAMS, Wine and Spirit Importer, 112, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON, Two doors from the Flower Pot.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

PORT, SHERRY, MARSALA, MADEIRA, &c., TWENTY SHILLINGS PER DOZEN, imported by us from the Cape of Good Hope, and only charged half the usual duty by her Majesty's Customs.
"I find it to be pure and unadulterated, and I have no doubt of its being far more wholesome than the artificial mixtures too often sold for genuine Sherry."
"H. LETHBRY, M.D., London Hospital."
A pint sample of either, 12 stamps. Terms, cash or reference. Packages charged, and the duty if returned. Delivered free to any of the London Termini.
Brandy, Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon.
WELLER and HUGHES, wholesale Importers, 27, Crutched Friars, Mark-lane.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., Wine and Spirit Merchants, 51, Pall-Mall, August, 1885.

EPPS'S COCOA.—Epps, homoeopathic chemist, London.—1lb. and 4lb. packets, 1s. 6d. and 9d.—This excellent production, originally prepared for the special use of homoeopathic patients, having been adopted by the general public, can now be had of the principal grocers. Each packet is labelled James Epps, homoeopathic chemist, London.

SYDENHAM ALPACA OVERCOATS for Summer Wear. Admirably adapted for the Parks, Day Festivals, Race-Courses, Country Rambles, Daily Town Wear, or the Sea-Side, and equally convenient for travelling in hot dry weather from the protection which they afford against dust, without the encumbrance of weight, or the restraint of transpiration. These goods are made with a degree of care hitherto unprecedented. Sydenham Trousers of fine light cloth, 17s. 6d.; Waistcoat to match, 8s. 6d.; Business or Park Coat, 17s. 6d.; Sydenham Summer Overcoats of Melton Cloth, 21s.; Complete Suits for Boys, 24s.; Gentlemen's complete Evening Dress or Opera Suit, 65s. The Sydenham construction as is now well known is effectually adapted to secure the most perfect retentive and easy fit in all positions of the body. Made only by the Inventors, SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate-hill.

THE SUITS at 47s., 50s., 55s., 58s., 60s., and 63s., are made to order from Scotch heather and Cheviot tweeds and angolas, all wool, and thoroughly shrunk, by B. BENJAMIN, merchant and family tailor, 74, Regent-street, W., and are adapted for either shooting, fishing, promenade, sea-side, or continental touring. N.B. A perfect fit guaranteed.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hip, being sent to the Manufacturer, JOHN WHITE, 228, Piccadilly, London.

Price of a single truss, 10s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.—Postage 1s.
Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 8d.
Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 10d.
Post-office orders to be made payable to JOHN WHITE, Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking.

Price from 7s. 6d. to 16s. each.—Postage 6d.
JOHN WHITE Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

GREY HAIR. 248, High Holborn (opposite Day and Martin's). ALEX. ROSA's Hair Dye is easily applied, producing a slight brown, dark brown, or black, permanently. 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. per bottle. A.R.'s Hair Destroyer, or Depilatory, removes superfluous hair from the face, neck, or arms, without injuring the skin; sold at 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. A.R.'s Hair-Curling Fluid saves the trouble of using curl papers or irons, for immediately it is applied a beautiful and lasting curl is obtained; 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. per bottle. The above articles are sent per post for 54 stamps in blank wrappers.

BURGESS'S celebrated Bandoline for fixing Ladies' Hair or Gentlemen's Whiskers and Moustaches, without drying, not being a liquid as most others. In bottles from 1s. to 6d. Prepared at R. BURGESS'S Hair Cutting and Brushing Establishment, Head Washing on the approved Ovi-Lavatory system.

Nos. 14, 15, and 16, Royal Opera Arcade, Charles-street, Haymarket, S. W. Agents, Birch, Molesworth-street, Dublin; Peagam, King-street, Jersey; Apothecaries' Hall, Glasgow; and Ludwig, 33, Charlotten-Strassen, Berlin.

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HEAL and SON'S Show Rooms contain a large assortment of Brass Bedsteads, suitable both for Home use and for Tropical Climates. Handsome Iron Bedsteads with Brass Mountings and elegant Japanese Plain Iron Bedsteads for Servants; every description of Wood Bedstead that is manufactured, in Mahogany, Birch, Walnut Tree woods, Polished Deal and Japanned, all fitted with Bedding and Furnitures complete, as well as every description of Bedroom Furniture.

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